



Icelandic Sheepdog International Cooperation

## **23<sup>th</sup> ISIC seminar**

### **Copenhagen, Denmark**

### **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2018**

Traditionally the ISIC seminar takes place during the last weekend of October - so also in 2018. This ISIC seminar was the 23rd seminar that the ISIC/Executive Committee has had the honour of organizing since the Icelandic Sheepdog International Cooperation started in 1996. The seminars have been arranged yearly, always in cooperation with a hosting breed club in one of the ISIC countries. This year by the Danish club at the Danhostel close to Bella Center and the airport in Copenhagen

As usual, each club is welcome to send two delegates (some send three); usually the club president/chairman and the breeding committee responsible person in the club. These two (three) delegates represent their club in the "chairman group" and the "breeding group"

Participants this year

In the chairman group: Svend Brandt Jensen, ISIC exec.

Ingbritt Sannel, ISIC exec. and Chairman Sweden

Katariina Jarkko, ISIC exec.

Guðríður Þorbjörg Valgeirsdóttir, ISIC exec.

Jan Erikson, ISIC Auditor

Stefanía Sigurðardóttir, Chairman Iceland

Louise Roer, Chairman Denmark

Natasja Hagemeier, Chairman Netherlands

Linn Langset, Chairman Norway

Tina Carney, Vice president USA

Spike Williamson, guest USA

Ron Harmer, Canada invited

Jimmy Brastad, guest Norway

In the breeding group:

May Britt Sannerholt, Sweden

Helga Andrésdóttir, Iceland

Else Westerman, Denmark

Kate Palmquist, Denmark

Anne Vaskio Finland

Helene Strøm Kraabøl, Norway

Peg Johnson, USA

Auður Hjördís Valsdóttir; guest Canada

Guðný Halla Gunnlaugsdóttir, guest Iceland

Bertil Sannel, guest Sweden

## Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2018

### Opening of the 23<sup>th</sup> ISIC seminar

The meeting started with a traditional toast to our cooperation and Svend wished us all welcome to the meeting. There were quite a few new faces so first we introduced ourselves.

Spike Williamson was then announced Chairman and Ingbritt Sannel Secretary for the seminar

Ingbritt Sannel gave a short report of what the ISIC/Executive committee have been doing since last time. They had a face to face meeting in Finland, Katariina participated in the workshop on genetic diversity in the Netherlands and Ingbritt has been in contact with a breeder in Poland that could be part of the cooperation in the future. The executive committee has also used Skype to communicate as well as Messenger for quick decisions and information. Katariina showed our economic situation and the auditor's report and the coming budget. *See added PDF!*

Only a short time was spent on highlighting the club's annual reports – such as special matters. You can read more about this in the notes from the breed group! However once again **we remind you all to make sure we have the proper addresses so that the reports reach us**. Traditionally it is the responsibility of each chairman to make sure the reports and other information reach the right persons.

We got a presentation from Iceland of the changes to the FCI- Standard for Icelandic Sheepdog

FCI-Standard N° 289 - 3<sup>th</sup> July 2018 (DIF) The whole presentation is added to these notes! When it comes to the translation into different languages May Britt thought that Denmark, Norway and Sweden should have cooperation as the languages are so similar.

May Britt Sannerholt and Ingbritt Sannel informed about the two different mental descriptions for dogs in Sweden. Mental description Dog (MH) and Behaviour and Personality Description Dog (BPH). Why mental is useful for both breeders and dog owners in general was shown in some videos and the diagrams that were connected to these dogs and their actions. One important conclusion from that May Britt and Ingbritt highlighted is that even if descriptions are done a bit differently you can use the information to know more about an individual dog and you can use what you learn also when planning to mate two individuals even if they have done different mental descriptions. *See added notes!*

After a very nice and healthy lunch we split up in Chairman Group and Breeding Group

## **This was discussed and decided in the Chairman meeting (RoP §7)**

### **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2018**

1 Approval of the register of participants as follows:

Spike Williamson USA guest, Katariina Jarkko ISIC exec, Guðríður Þorbjörg Valgeirsdóttir ISIC exec, Stefanía Sigurðardóttir Chairman Iceland, Louise Roer Chairman Denmark, Natasja Hagemeyer Chairman Netherlands, Jan Erikson ISIC Auditor, Jimmy Brastad Guest Norway, Linn Langset Chairman Norway, Tina Carney Vice President USA, Ron Harmer Canada Invited, Svend Brandt Jensen ISIC exec and Ingbritt Sannel ISIC exec and Chairman Sweden

2. Once again, we looked at the presentation of ISIC/exec's activity report including balance sheet and profit and loss account for the previous year as well as the auditor's report. This was approved unanimously.

3. 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. This was agreed.

4. Decision upon the contributions to be paid the following year. The meeting decided to use the same principle as before. Hence, the fee will be 1,2 euro/member + 50 Euro for each country. We discussed that countries with very few members could have even lower fee than the 50euros. We also agreed that the country arranging the yearly meeting will receive a contribution from ISIC.

5. Presentation of an updated profit and loss account for the current year. Katariina informed that the reason ISIC exec. has spent more money than in our budget for 2018 is that we sent one member of ISIC exec. to take part in the workshop in the Netherlands in April. The chairmen agreed that it was a correct decision, so the updated accounts were agreed.

6. Katariina showed a presentation of ISIC/exec planned activities for the next year and a cost estimate for these activities and a budget for 2019. This was approved. *See the added PDF!*

7. We discussed the web page that need improvements and a new webmaster. Ingbritt Sannel volunteered to be webmaster and check what can be done to make it more up to date.

8. We spent a lot of time discussing the web-based Database in the future. The meeting asked Jimmy Brastad, our guest from Norway who works with IT and databases professionally, to be part of our IT-group that so far has consisted of Guðni Ágústsson, Jörgen Metzdorf and Hans- Thollef Bergan, Hans- Thollef is no longer a part of the group though and will be replaced by Jimmy Brastad. ISIC exc will contact these persons and ask them if they would like to continue the work

and come up with suggestions on a lot of important issues such as to make sure that ISIC gets a backup of the database and that methods are used that make it easier and quicker to correct mistakes and add new data in a correct way..

9. The seminar 2019 will be on Iceland, it was decided it should be an “open” seminar, that is more members can come and listen to what goes on, and with an extra day for looking at dogs and make visits to the countryside. The seminar 2020 will be in Finland and 2021 in Norway.

10. We had a question from the USA concerning whether the use of a ramp for showing our breed was OK or not. It was discussed, we looked at a video of a dog on a ramp, and we agreed that it was OK that it should be optional for a judge to use a ramp. *See video!*

11. After some discussion and different opinions of pros and cons as to having three or four members in the executive committee it was decided that even if it is more expensive, it is a good idea to have four members in the ISIC executive committee. Three members, as written in the rules of procedure, to be elected among the membership countries and a fourth member always to be appointed by DÍF.

Accordingly, Svend Brandt Jensen was elected for three years and Ingbritt Sannel for two years. Guðríður Þorbjörg Valgeirsdóttir was appointed by DÍF for three years.

12. Small changes will be made to the rules of procedure to make them up to date and corresponding with decisions made 2015 and forward. Spike Williamson and Jan Erikson will see to this.

## **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2018**

13. Natasja informed us that the Dutch club is in contact with Pieter Oliehoek who now is interested to continue his work with our breed and is interested in helping ISIC. Natasja asked if the ISIC organisation as such would like to enter Pieters database. We could not get an estimate of how much it would cost. Natasja could not present any such estimate during our meeting. To see how that database works one can go to [www.dogsglobal.com](http://www.dogsglobal.com) Natasja points to the fact that breeders need a functional database and all agreed on that but the question is how and to what cost.

One problem with the ISIC database is that dogs must only be entered once and with the original number only. Mistakes have been made here. The rule is, and has been up till now, that countries appoint one person to enter dogs and that person must be well aware of how to do it. But we must find an easy and quick way to correct mistakes. At the moment only Guðni Ágústsson on Iceland can do that.

We discussed the importance of using genetic information in a proper way. Every country will need to educate breeders to look at all aspects when choosing mates for breeding not just genetics, as seen in some breeders adds these days. Especially important since we know that the database used has quite a lot of faults.

The chairmen agree that the Dutch continue to talk with Pieter Oliehoek in this matter and some countries will take part in a seminar with Pieter in Copenhagen in March.

The Dutch club will report back to ISIC executive how this work progresses.

## 2018 ISIC Breeding Committee Meeting Minutes

### 27 October, 2018

#### A. Review Annual Reports

Denmark: Discussed how in the Danish Kennel Club discovered what appeared to be a link with AI & C-Section and lower litter counts. AI or C-section litter sizes still average only 3.2/puppies per litter in Denmark.

Iceland: Has had a case where a dog was diagnosed with Post Polar Cataract and Cortical Cataract. This sire/dam of this dog had a close repeat breeding between these dogs so should be watched closely.

**Action:** None

#### B. Are we putting more requirements onto our breeding animals than the other kennel clubs do?

In *Germany*, the kennel club restricts breeding on some dogs for minor items (such as a missing tooth) which is eliminating valid dogs from a breeding program.

Iceland: Annual eye tests for the first 3 years, then one every 26 months. Males and bitches do not need eye tests after 7 years of age if his prior 2 tests have been clear.

*Norway*: Restrictions that a dog must achieve a particular placement at a show in order to be approved to breed (NISC), however puppies can still get a Norway Kennel Club pedigree.

*Denmark*: Must have hips tested prior to breeding. Once test results are submitted the DKK will issue a pedigree. Cannot register puppies unless parents have pedigrees.

*France*: Dog must be judged at 12 months or over as being of type

*Finland*: Hips, knees & eyes tests must be done. Bitch and males under 5 years can only produce 9 puppies then over 5 years can have another litter(s) until breeding max.

*USA*: Hips & eye tests must be done. Eyes after 2 years of age.

*Sweden*: Only recommendations.

Overall, most breed clubs make recommendations but not requirements.

**Action:** Helga A. to see if DIF can provide information that might sway some of these stricter breed clubs and are these restrictions really necessary.

#### C. Web-based database now & in the future:

Strides have been made getting Canadian dogs in to the database. We are stuck with the lack of CKC numbers on some key Canadian-born dog. The Dutch club is helping to add the dogs in Belgium.

We have an opportunity to work directly with Pieter Oliehoek for an updated genetic database for now as well as the future.

**Action 1:** Two suggested work-arounds would be to either use an ISAA club assigned "ISNA" number or for those Canadian dogs registered with an AKC number to add some sort of designation such as the C\_DN##### for these dogs. Breeding Committee suggests using the ISNA number.

**Action 2:** Get pricing to access his work, his global database and to start a cooperation with him.

- D. Closer cooperation on day-to-day bases between seminars for ISIC breeding committee: We will continue to utilize the Facebook group to share information, particularly new board members.
- E. In Norway, a 3-4-month-old puppy had watery eyes. The vet diagnosed Entropion of the eye. There is a possibility that it was a mis-diagnosis. The breeding committee recommends getting a second opinion when the puppy is 18 months, preferably by a canine eye specialist.
- F. Request to better share information between countries regarding imports and exports of dogs. Iceland is the only country that receives information when a puppy is exported. Denmark and Sweden add information in their appendix which would be good for the other ISIC countries to do as well.
- G. The ISAA-report. US report has a mistake. The information litter count in the appendix is not correct. The correct litter information appears on page 4.

## **Here ended the chairman meeting and the two groups continued the discussions together.**

The main question being: **The future of ISIC and what we want it to be for us.**

There is frustration concerning how slowly corrections gets done into the database as well as new entries. This is hard to fix but we hope that the new member, just appointed of the chairmen, to the IT group, Jimmy Brastad, will be able to work with the other two members of that group to come up with smart solutions.

Iceland will check with Guðni Ágústsson how cooperation with Jimmy Brastad can start and how they can improve the system and the way we do things.

One thing we can do at least, is to send the name of the person responsible for entering data once more to ISIC exec so we have an updated list. Strange things happen when dogs are entered such as when changes are made dogs sometimes disappear. The IT group will have to look in to this as well as many other questions.

Peg asked how we can get dogs without proper numbers/registrations into the database. We had a long discussion of what effects on the database we get depending on how we enter them. The meeting decided it is a good idea to have the dogs in the system but with an option to discriminate the dogs with no pedigree when doing calculations of for instance mean kinship.

Norway, Sweden and Denmark will work in a little group and discuss the use of Facebook and how we can improve communication and come up with suggestions on how we do it. We will start a Facebook chairman group just like the Facebook breeding committee started last year.

The meeting asked all to share interesting articles and Svend reminded us that according to rules of procedures we are allowed to use each other's articles from club magazines etc.

A special question for the future was brought up by Ingbritt Sannel. Could ISIC support saving semen from dogs in our breed? The question was discussed with pros and cons. Something to think about for the future? Discussions about this matter has already started in Iceland.

Norway informed that our breed will play a part in a popular Norwegian TV programme soon. We ask Norway to inform all countries when and how this can be seen.

We said thanks to Denmark for a very well hosted meeting and said goodbye until 2019 when we meet in Iceland

ISIC/Executive Committee – 27-28th of October 2018

*Ingbritt Sannel, Katariina Jarkko, Guðríður Þorbjörg Valgeirsdóttir and Svend Brandt Jensen*