

Report of the judges meeting 2017

Thursday 29th June, 13h

CERM, 65 Martigny - SWITZERLAND

Participants:

Christine Wiederkehr	CH	Celine Bottussi-Jocavel	F
Milan Plundra	CZ	Austin Long-Doyle	IRL
Karen Bodeving	USA	Poul Bodeving	USA
Marianne Russ	D2	Rita Breesch	B
Kari Augestad	E	Kay Klysner	DK
Kevin Young	ZA	Didier Basset	F
Annegret Splinter	D	Johannes Mayer	D
Aziz Orromedina	BR – E??	Bent Brohus Christiansen	DK
Andreas Fütterer	D	Uschi Eisner	A
Bernard Leger	CH	Gianluigi Streparola	I
Taina Nygård	SF	Christian Tessier	F
Marie-Louise Bill	CH	Antonio Alenda	E
John Wauben	NL	Ivo Beccarelli	CH
Reinhold Welsch	D	Martin König	CH
Harle-Josee Melchior	L	Martina Ellerova	SK
Jean Prim	L	Isabella Trevenon	CH
Als Gäste			
Wolfgang Ketzler	D	Lene Klysner	DK

1. Word of Welcome
The President, Ruedi Thomann welcomes all judges. He is glad so many judges have found their way to Martigny, the homeplace of our St. Bernards.
Ruedi welcomes especially Wolfgang Ketzler: President of Honour of the WUSB.
Christian Tessier has prepared a lecture for the judges.
2. Short information about WUSB Show 2017
Reti Wiederkehr welcomes all judges, and gives a short information about this event.
It has been a great job so far, but everything is on schedule and plans are being followed well.
There are 273 dogs entered for the show on Saturday: it is a new record number.
All activities take place in CERM: meetings, gala-evening, and show are all at the same place.
3. Report of the judges meeting 2016 in Portugal/Maia
There are no comments on the report.
4. Recent information from the member countries
Next year the WUSB show is organised by the Italian St. Bernard Club. The show will occur in Rome.
5. Wishes for the next judges meeting 2018 in Italy / Rome

Tajna Nygard: In Finland we had a large meeting in cooperation with the Bernese Mountain Dogs Club. There were 3 to 4 points voted and we discussed those specific points about the dogs. It was a nice and educational meeting.

Annegret Splinter: Can we do something during a meeting while dogs are present again, like we did in Denmark. When dogs are present, we can discuss ideas/details in small groups to present it later for the full group for consideration.

Kari Augestad: Next time we also could discuss about proportions – in special from young until old dogs. We have problems with dogs with short legs : Saint Bernards are working dogs, nothing else.

6. Varia

Kari has a wish: can someone write something on the WUSB Website. An ideal dog, without telling its name, but the best dogs for the standard.

Annegret Splinter: There is still a word missing in the new written Standard (German version).

7. Evaluation of WUSB Show 2016 – Portugal

Kari Augestad: It is difficult for me to give my opinion. WUSB 2016 was exceptional, there has been awarded too many Excellents in the showing. There were many dogs, also Champion dogs, but according to WUSB they were Very Good dogs. And especially at WUSB Shows we should pay more attention, that we only give the dogs what it is worthy comparing to FCI Standard.

Kevin Young: There has been given a Good to a Champion dog, and then the ring stewards called the head-judge. Then a higher qualification had to be given.

Tanja: we have once disqualified a dog in the Champion class. It had disqualifying dental disorders. Annegret agrees and confirms the disqualifying points, some all-round judges don't know of these problems. They don't check the standard before judging.

Austion Longdoyle: We all should be aware for this. It depends on the amount of dogs or the importance of the show. We all know the standard but in smaller shows we can give the dogs a much better result.

Andreas Futterer: We only can judge what was shown in the ring.

Kari Augestad: WUSB is a world organisation. We have to show the World that we only give the best dogs an Excellent.

Ruedi ends the discussion

8. Conference and discussion

Today we have a presentation with dogs in the 19th century.

First pictures of the standard of that period, and the proportion is like what we would like it today, and the head of the dogs of those days and of Barry has not changed a lot.

In the year 1855 they have managed a crossbreed with the Newfoundlander. The brown NF has a different proportion then the black NF. They both have a proportion of 55/45 but they both have a round skull. Also the angulations are more pronounced and we can see that when those who only breed longhaired Saint Bernards the NF features show up.

When we compare it to the dogs today: we see the same proportions, the head is nearly the same. Many pictures are shown, and Mr. Tessier tells us that NF have influenced the Saint Bernard Breed.

Andres Futterer: This is not a good comparison, we should see both heads in profile, and then we can discuss the lines. In this presentation everything is mixed - Lips, Eyes, Ears, wrinkles and lines. Many dogs in these pictures have no type, but it is very bad to say these dogs are hyper type.

Christian Tessier agrees, he may not dictate what is hyper type and what is not. Only we must be careful in our breeding.

Andreas Futterer: We have to separate the bone from the skin. There are dogs with a nice head, nice bone, and a nice type, but with too much skin.

Christian Tessier remembers the Italian dogs, how the eyes and the ears were nicely positioned. Most of the old dogs had a correct head and we may not lose this.

Reinhold Welsch: Dogs have skin and have bone. We must agree about the fact that the skeleton is the most important. The skin is the exterior, and the type (interior) is the skeleton.

We have to look forward and not behind us. If it was crossed with a Newfoundlander, or something else happened in the breeding process, it doesn't matter! We have to look forward and breed a functional Saint Bernard.

Taina: We also would like to have lectures for the breeders. They also need education.

John Wauben: We should inform breeders AND judges. The FCI is interested in the Powerpoint presentations that are made in the past and today. FCI has demanded this kind of information from Switzerland, but never got an answer back. The FCI needs this kind of information, and also provided for all-round judges.

Ane Christiansen (spoke as a breeder): It should be nice if this Powerpoint would be published on the FCI website, or that there will be a better education for the all round judges. There are so many dogs that became Champions in international dog shows, and many of them don't correspond to the standard. And then the breeder thinks: Yes, my dog is a Champion – and therefore a super dog???- That is a big problem. We look forward to better education for allround judges and breeders.

President Ruedi Thomann, thanks all judges for their presence and wishes everybody a nice WUSB weekend