



Association Technique International du Boxer

Minutes of the ATIBOX General Assembly

**Friday May 31st 2024 in the hotel Fletcher Familiehotel De Hunzebergen, Valtherweg 36,
7875 TB Exloo, Holland**

The following countries were represented at the meeting and fulfilled the criteria of voting rights at the assembly, named by country and person(s) representing them;

Belgium - Mr Kurt Kiekens

Czech Republic – Mr Robert Fagos

Germany - IBC – Mr Sasha Wolf and Mrs Martina Stolp-Sarwatka

Hungary – Mr Imre Bíró

Netherlands – Mr Henry Beuks & Mrs Desiree de Bake- v Wijngaarden

Norway - Ms Trine Larson & Tone Robertson

Portugal – Mr Pedro Bispo

Poland - Ms Anna Bogucka & Mr Andrezej Stepinski

Serbia – Mr Daniel Boros

Slovakia – Mrs Dominika Hradská & Mr Josef Suster

Spain – Mrs Elena Bermejo Mayor & Mr Alvaro Rios Izquierdo

Sweden – Mrs Maritha Ostlund-Holmsten & Mr Anders Harnman

AGENDA

A. Welcome address from the President

Mr Bispo opened the meeting, welcomed all and thanked everyone for attending. He stated that Mr Rallings would chair the meeting.

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B. Approval of agenda of the GA 2024

Mr Rallings asked the meeting to approve the agenda. *It was unanimously approved.*

C. Election of protocol writer

Mr Rallings was elected.

1. President's Report 2023 and approval of.

Mr Bispo stated that the committee is a team committed to the 'boxer'. Atibox is now a democratic and transparent organisation with the changes of the statutes in 2023. All membership fees are now only accepted from the member clubs bank account. It is a break from the past situations, when we all know how votes were obtained. Atibox continues to receive applications for memberships and is truly becoming a 'World' organisation. We organised the first Boxer Major by Atibox in Germany last year and this year it will be in Spain. Also and importantly we organised the International Boxer Conference in Madrid, a very well received and thought provoking day, concentrating this year on health and judging, we are looking at making this an annual event. We are working to have the Atibox titles recognised in the FCI pedigree's something which will cement the importance of the Atibox title.. We now have established all the necessary commissions and members of and we continue to work for all aspects of the boxer. *Presidents report was unanimously approved.*

2. General Secretary's Report 2023 and approval of.

Mr Rallings stated that his function as in any organisation is to facilitate the smooth running of the administration of Atibox, arrange meetings, answer correspondence etc.

The past year there have been 5 committee meetings, the minutes from which can be read on the Atibox web-site.

In collaboration IBC Germany the first 'Boxer Major by Atibox' show was held this year it will be held on Sunday 13th October in Esquivias, Spain

In January the first independent Boxer Conference in Madrid was held, something which we are exploring the possibilities' to hold annually.

We have instigated contact with wubox in an attempt to unify the Boxer world, something in today's climate would be of Benefit to us all. He shared with you the meeting the timelines so that the members were fully informed. Initially he wrote to all wubox clubs and all wubox presidium members on the 14th December inviting them to the Open conference in Madrid, no response was received from any of them, he again wrote on the 5th January again without response. On the 7th January only Oliver Erat informed Atibox that he and Francesca Damia would attend to represent wubox. They both attended the conference at which it was agreed that within 4 weeks wubox would respond to our invitation to hold discussions, on the 28th February Oliver Erat stated that they had not had the opportunity to discuss within wubox and in due time would inform us of their decision. On the 16th April Bernard Knopek wrote stating wubox did wish to discuss and they would facilitate the meeting, he replied on the 22nd April accepting, to date wubox have not contacted us further to arrange a meeting. Atibox has demonstrated and shown an openness and willingness to address the issues, we can do no more.

The new statutes agreed at last year's General assembly are now functional having been notarised and the Legal Dutch version is published on the web-site.

Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome – BOAS

On the 20th and 21st June 2023 he represented Atibox at the International Boas Conference which was held in Oslo, Norway hosted by the FCI in cooperation with the Norwegian Kennel Club. The report about the conference is posted on the web site.

He thanked our web-master Alice Roukema for all her work during the year.

Atibox exists for the members, you, the committee works on your behalf, we do not always get things right, that is normal in life, but I know all of us try our best.

Secretary's report was unanimously approved

3. Working Matters report 2023 and approval of.

Mr Fagos stated that the IGP /FH had taken place in Holland and were well organised and attended with 42 participants. He highlighted the ages of the winners, in IGP 8.5 years old and in FH over 12 years old, proving that Boxers are a healthy breed. In 2024 the championships are in Spain, the web-site gives all the details. *Working Matters report was unanimously approved*

4. Treasurer's report for the accounts of 2023 and approval of.

Mr Beuks gave a power point presentation of the various incomes and expenditures for the last year which has already been forwarded to all members. *Treasurers report was unanimously approved.*

5. Auditor's report 2023

The signed approval of the accounts by the auditors, Mrs Martina Stolp-Sarwatka & Mr Kurt Kiekens had already been forwarded to all members.

6. Health Commission Report

Mrs. Maritha Ostlund Holmsten presented a power point presentation of 46 pages about the work the health commission being done and their plans for the future.

Health commission report was approved unanimously.

7. Judges Commission Report

Mr Härnman stated the strategy of the Judges Commission was to highlight problems in the breed especially as the Boxer is a Brachycephalic breed and bring to judges attention the problems. To hold a Judges briefing at the ATIBOX World Show highlighting the problems and what we think the judges should be aware of. At present ATIBOX Judges list includes now 54 judges from 19 countries.

Atibox Judges have responsibility for Boxers Welfare and the good of the breed. Extensive work is underway on dog welfare at kennel clubs in Sweden, Norway, Finland and several European countries. The authorities in the Netherlands are taking a hard line on several breeds where 12 "brachycephalic breeds" have been listed and where boxers are just behind. And England, of course, who are far ahead and have a work in progress with an emphasis on, among other things, the brachycephaly issues.

Judges can influence the direction of the breed, attention needs to be paid to the length of the nose, the design of the nostrils and the length of the tongues and in addition, breathing is also influenced by the length of the neck and the design of the chest. We must pay attention to the standard, that "Length of the nose bridge in relation to the skull should be 1:2" and the muzzle must thus not be overly short. Dentition should be sound and according to the breed standard.

Judges should look for sound breathing, the correct proportions in head and neck.

Judges Commission report was unanimously approved.

8. Show Commission Report

Mrs Stocchi gave the report for the show commission. She stated that they had analysed the entry figures for recent years and if Atibox show is to reach an entry of over 300 then the organising country must bring over 100 entries. The past entries are now not possible to achieve even if there was only one organisation and relying on a few countries is less viable. The new logo had been organised by the show committee and we now have the original artwork in a number of formats.

9. Election of 2 auditors

It was requested from the meeting for nominations for auditors. This provoked a discussion that nominations should be pre-sought and named nominations should be on the agenda something agreed to happen in future years. After discussion, Mrs Martina Stolp-Sarwatka agreed to continue and Mr Kurt Kiekens stated that Mr Nicolas Limon was willing to be an auditor.

10. Proposals from the committee;

- I. Increase in Annual fees from the Year 2025 to 250 euro's.
There has been no increase in fees for over 10 years, the expenses of Atibox cannot be sustained in the future with the current fee.
Mr Rallings stated the proposal was self-explanatory and asked for the meeting to vote.
Belgium abstained all others voted in favour.
- II. The annual fee for being a Secondary member , under the new Statutes - Members, Article 4, IV, will be 50% of the full membership fee.
Mr Rallings stated the 'secondary members' approved in the statute changes 2023 needs to have a fee decided, the figure of 50% of the full figure is suggested. *Unanimously agreed.*
- III. Annual Reports – amend contents. The committee suggest to amend the information required, that will be to confirm the contact details of the President and Representative of the member club only.
Mr Rallings stated that the content of the Annual Reports for many countries is impossible to fulfil and not necessarily relevant today and thus the reason to amend.
Unanimously agreed
- IV. Amendment to Internal Regulations 2 concerning Committee Expenses. Highlighted in yellow is the proposed amendments and additions.
 - a) As a standard, Presidium members do not get any annual reimbursement paid. Only in exceptional cases expenses can be paid to one or more individual committee members after it is authorized by a majority vote of the committee **except in circumstances stated in 2b / c.**
 - b) The working Chairman has to attend two additional events, the WM IGP and WM FH. His / her expenses for both events will be paid in addition to 2(a) based on a declaration confirmed by invoices or other supporting documents as proof of costs. Travel costs paid by car will be at 0,20ct/km. Costs are to be controlled at a minimum level.
 - c) **If an Atibox committee member represents Atibox at event or conference, expenses or a set fee can be paid to that person as set out in 2a/b**
Mr Rallings stated that the changes were necessary to allow expenses to be paid to a person who attends a conference or event to represent Atibox.
Unanimously agreed.

11. Applications for Membership of Atibox

Mrs Bogucka stated when the agenda item started that she had been studying the statutes and by increasing the membership numbers in future it will be impossible to amend the statutes with the necessary 2/3 majority present. It was explained that the 2/3 majority was Dutch law as Atibox is registered in Holland. There was some discussion about this matter.

a. Boxer Club of Ecuador b. San Marino Kennel Club

Voting - Poland abstained all other clubs in favour.

12. Confirmation of the Atibox events;

a. IGP 2025, 2026

b. IFH 2025, 2026

Mr Rallings stated that no nominations had been submitted.

It was raised if this time - *Any other business* – should be included in the meeting Mr Beuks stated: that under *Any other business* it is possible to have this be part of the agenda and the General Assembly, but there are restrictions. Since the topics that arise have not been separately placed on the agenda in advance, it is not possible to vote on the topic in question. The Committee can only be requested (if desired by vote) to put the relevant subject on the agenda for a vote at a subsequent meeting. So it is a choice, *any other business* can be part of the Assembly (with the restrictions mentioned) or done as “open discussion” after the General Assembly is closed.

The General Assembly finished at 10.30pm.

