

# NEW YEAR



## To inform members

This letter is to inform all delegates of the FIWC. We request the delegates to forward this letter to all national members and share it also on the national websites.

## Invitation to join FIWC Congress and Show

The biannual FIWC Congress will be organised in The CZECH Republic :

From the 2nd to the 5th of July 2020 both Congress and FIWC show will be organised in Konopiste. More info can also be found at our website [www.fiwc.club](http://www.fiwc.club)

## Editor newsletter

If you have news from your national club, please send it to Gosewien van Klaarbergen by mail.

## Words from the Chairman

The wintertime is a perfect time for reflection and looking forward. For this reason I like to reflect on the aims of all breeders and find common ground for the future.

The goal each breeder should aim for is clearly set out in the document entitled “FCI INTERNATIONAL BREEDING STRATEGIES” approved by the FCI Breeding Commission in Naples, on May 23rd 2009.

“The goal in dog breeding is functionally healthy dogs with a construction and mentality typical to the breed; dogs that can live a long and happy life for the benefit and pleasure of the owner and society, as well as of the dog itself.”

One of the key goals of the FIWC is naturally the health of the Irish Wolfhound breed and, in its most recent meeting in Dublin, the Board also worked on defining the most effective methods to achieve those aims. Many international groups deal with the health of our breed, investigating the major diseases that appear to afflict it. We are grateful for the work they do to raise awareness among owners and breeders and for their support in research. Unfortunately, diseases like DCM, osteosarcoma,

pneumonia, liver shunt, epilepsy, etc., are quantitative, polygenic and poly-factorial traits. Hence, molecular investigation aimed at drafting selection protocols, including the use of effective tools such as genomic analysis, is very complex.

In my view, the role of the Federation, beyond concentrating on this issue with its limited resources, should be to assist breeders, providing them with the greatest quantity of useful information. The FCI also agrees that, “Education of breeders is to be recommended, rather than strict breeding regulations and stringent demands in breeding programs, which can easily result in reduced genetic diversity in the breed as well as exclusion of excellent breed representatives and reduced cooperation with conscientious breeders.”



The biennial congress, which the Club of the Czech Republic is organising under the aegis of the FIWC for 2020 is an important element of this educational activity. Anyone who has consulted the meeting programme is sure to have acknowledged the importance of the topics to be dealt with and the value of the speakers. Consequently, at this event, I plan on meeting with many of the conscientious breeders of our dogs, those who do not make their choices based on the “likes” obtained on Facebook for this or that specimen, but are guided by a widespread awareness of phenotype and genotype of the animals they intend to

mate. Breeders who are informed on the background of the parents and consequently know what to expect from the progeny. In addition to indicating maintenance of a vast genetic pool as a priority element in breeding, the FCI makes another recommendation: “Breeders should keep to breed standard as a guideline for breed specific features: any exaggeration should be avoided.”

We breed, maintaining the typicality of the Irish Wolfhound and - under no circumstances - do we exaggerate some features or introduce new ones.

### *The year 2019*

- The major event in 2019 was our jubilee 25 years, celebrated in Ireland. Ireland. The Irish Wolfhound Club of Ireland was looking forward us welcoming you at the Irish



Wolfhound Club of Ireland Speciality, 9th June 2019 at Castletown House, Celbridge, Co Kildare. It was great to meet our patrons Betty Murphey and Jim Behan - both still going strong - and the Irish friends. The Jubilee had a bit of a Dutch ‘icing’ with the much honoured Els Swelheim as the judge of the annual Championship Show at Castletown House.

- Of course in the year 2019 several activities were undertaken in view of the 2020 Congress.

***Looking forwards***

- As usual all delegates need a written formal letter of their national board stating that the delegates is the formal representative of the Club. Please send this formal letter 3 months in advance to the assistant secretary.



- You can make our treasurer Monette Daubenfeld, very happy by paying the membership fee of your club in time. In a separate mail we will send the chart of fees - which is again very moderate. Please stimulate your treasurer to pay in time.
- In May 2020 our breed will get some very special exposure thanks to a unique show in Monaco / Montecarlo and a special stamp dedicated to the Irish Wolfhound. Herewith we invite the breeders/owners to take part to the event at May 2nd and 3rd 2020. More information about this special 'Exposition Canine Internationale Monaco' is to be found by the following link. :  
<http://www.monacokennelclub.com/index.php?id=1243>.
- Of course we like to remind you that the winter edition of IW World is in print. Just wait and see how beautiful it again is.
- In 6 months the major FIWC - event takes place. The Czech Republic is elected by the delegates to organise the next Congress FIWC 2020. It will be organised July 2nd - 5th 2020. We wish the organising committee all the best. Further details are to follow.



<http://www.fiwclub.com/index.html>

[http://www.fiwclub.com/main/en/en\\_fiwclub.html](http://www.fiwclub.com/main/en/en_fiwclub.html)

[http://www.fiwclub.com/main/en/en\\_congress.html](http://www.fiwclub.com/main/en/en_congress.html)

[http://www.fiwclub.com/main/en/en\\_show.html](http://www.fiwclub.com/main/en/en_show.html)

[http://www.fiwclub.com/main/en/en\\_hof.html](http://www.fiwclub.com/main/en/en_hof.html)

[http://www.fiwclub.com/main/en/en\\_sitemap.html](http://www.fiwclub.com/main/en/en_sitemap.html)

[http://www.fiwclub.com/main/congresses/2020\\_benesov/en\\_congress2020.html](http://www.fiwclub.com/main/congresses/2020_benesov/en_congress2020.html)

As a Chairman I take the liberty to thank my colleagues and all the Irish Wolfhound fanciers for their ongoing energy and love for the breed.

I wish all IW fanciers and their families a peaceful Christmas and New Year and a successful 2020. See you in July in Konopiště!

Marcello Poli, Chairman Federation of Irish Wolfhound Clubs

