Invitation to 35th AZ Budgerigar European Championship & 7th WBO World Show in Karlsruhe



by Christian Back (AZ-DWV-Chairman)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have so wonderfully drummed up support for us in the last months. Many invitations were sent out internationally from the WBO and many promises from the best budgie breeders from all over the world have already been received, who do not want to miss the participation in the probably most important event of this year for a budgie exhibitor. This year the 35th AZ European Championships will be held once in conjunction with the 7th WBO World Show under the direction of the AZ at the Schwarzwaldhalle on 24 and 25 August 2019 in Karlsruhe, Germany. We are pleased to welcome the WBO (World Budgerigar Organization) on its 25th anniversary with all its member associations and budgerigar breeders worldwide on an international level and to bring them together in Karlsruhe in 2019. In order to save the AZ-DWV board of directors many telephone calls to exhibitor questions around the registration of your budgies or the show procedure, I would like to give all interested exhibitors and visitors of the show a more detailed overview.

First, I would like to address some basic questions that have already been raised with me during the year. The combination of these two shows will only take place once this year and offers every exhibitor the chance to win two titles at one show with only one bird. This means that the winners of the European Championships will be the winners of the WBO Show at the same time. There is no show class separation! As usual, the General Show Rules and Show Guidelines of the AZ will apply as the show organiser. We will also not distinguish between national exhibitor levels, but ALL EXHIBITORS will register and exhibit their budgies exclusively in one CHAMPION level!

The Schwarzwaldhalle at the Congress Centre (for navigation: Festplatz 3, 76137 Karlsruhe) is best reached via the barrier access road at the Novotel, which by the way offers the best overnight accommodation:

(http://www.novotel.com/de/hotel-5400-novotel-karlsruhe-city/index.shtml)

phone: +49 721 35 26 919).

The Hotel Barbarossa, phone: +49 721 37250 (info@hotel-barbarossa-karlsruhe.de) is also recommended, reasonably priced and not so far from the Congress Centre and railway station. The large square in front of the Schwarzwaldhalle offers you sufficient free parking when you arrive on Friday for the delivery of the birds. On Saturday and Sunday during the event, however, those responsible of the show with a parking permit can only use this space. For exhibitors and visitors, however, the underground car park (approx. 18 €/day), with access also at the Novotel, is available. Especially because of the still existing job site situation in Karlsruhe and the current traffic jams on the motorways (A5, holiday season), at least 1 to 2 hours more travel time should be calculated for the journey to Karlsruhe for timely delivery.

The delivery of the birds takes place already on **Friday, 23 August starting from 14.00 o'clock** in the entrance area of the Schwarzwaldhalle and ends expressly at **18.00 o'clock!** This year we will set up a separate entry area for all foreign exhibitors to prevent unnecessary delays due to incorrectly registered show classes.

For the entry of the budgies, ALL foreign exhibitors must present an official veterinary certificate in accordance with Directive 92/65/EEC (last amended by Decision 2007/265/EC), Annex E, Part 1, from their veterinarian of origin upon entry. (For a sample see AZ homepage under Forms: AZ-Europa-Championship: www.azvogelzucht.de/content/formulare.html). This applies to both exhibition and market birds. A certificate form in all languages of the EU Member States is available as HTML and pdf document at the following link:

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2007/265/oj

For the departure of the budgies (mainly from third countries, not EU members), the exhibitor must inform himself in advance in his respective Foreign Office, which documents are required for the (re-)entry of his birds into his home country. The exhibitor has to bring his necessary documents on his own responsibility, which then can be confirmed or signed by our official veterinarian from Karlsruhe.

As in the previous years only a binding **pre-registration** is necessary for the participation, i.e. you only have to register the number of your budgies with your **participation fee (3.00 € per cage plus obligatory catalogue of 6.00 €)** until **latest Friday, August 16th, 2019** (that's 1 week before the delivery date of the birds). It is therefore very easy: A bank transfer to the following account is sufficient for your pre-registration:

Christian Back, Volksbank Rot, IBAN: DE61 6726 2550 0000 3816 16 (BIC: GENODE61LRO).

You can save yourself another phone call, letter or e-mail to me. In the bank transfer you should indicate only absolutely your name with breeder number and the number of the budgerigars, you want to exhibit. Youth exhibitors between the ages of 8 and 18 are exempt from any participation fees.

A completely filled out registration form (with exact show class information) must be brought only on the day of the delivery on Friday, 23 August! In the appendix you could find the international registration form, as well as the show class classification for showbudgerigars and colourbudgerigars.

Budgerigars, separated into showbudgerigars and colourbudgerigars, can be exhibited as single birds, pairs and collections, each divided into adult-/youngbird and in case of the single birds additionally into cock and hen. All exhibitors will exhibit in only one group, the "Champions" (CH). Only the generally known English show cages are permitted. Food (approx. 3cm) must be available on the bottom of the cage. All budgerigars are to be supplied with drinking water by the exhibitor upon delivery! Short white snack-bowls or all drinking tubes (max. 70ml) are permitted and must be securely fastened to the cage by the exhibitor. The show management will provide exhibitors with a large water canister for filling their drinking tubes on site upon delivery. After the judging, the AZ-DWV helper's team will check that the birds are supplied with sufficient drinking water during the entire show, and if necessary, water will of course be given way.

Only birds with closed and undamaged rings are permitted. Additional colour rings are not permitted. They are regarded as unauthorized marking and lead to the disqualification of the bird. **The AZ accepts no liability for loss or damage during transport or the duration of the show.** The "General Show Guidelines of AZ", as well as in the "AZ-DWV Show Guidelines" apply! Further information can be found at:

(http://www.azvogelzucht.de/content/sonstige_regelwerke.html)

Attention: Manipulation of the bird/ring leads to the exclusion of all birds of the exhibitor. For veterinary reasons, the breeder's number on the registration form must match the breeder's number on the bird's ring. This is especially important for members of more than one club/association.

As every year a bird market is also organized. The AZ will only charge a fee of 3.00 € per bird at the time of delivery, a registration of the birds in advance is not necessary! In addition, 10% of the sales proceeds must be paid by the seller to the AZ.

All budgerigar breeders are cordially invited to participate in an International Breeder's Evening with a Mediterranean buffet in the Novotel from 19.00 o'clock on Friday, 23 August, after their birds have been delivered. For organisational reasons the participation fee of 40,-€ per person (for this exclusive buffet) has to be transferred to the following bank account of DWV by 30 June 2019 at the latest:

Christian Back, Volksbank Rot, IBAN: DE61 6726 2550 0000 3816 16 (BIC: GENODE61LRO).

Since we have only a limited number of max. 100 places available in the Novotel and many international guests are expecting this year, the entrance banderols will be issued after receipt of payment. It is therefore best to secure your seat by bank transfer with the password "Buffet" as early as possible to me. You will then receive the entry banderol for the International Breeders' Evening together with the catalogue voucher on the day of delivery.

The judging normally starts on Saturday morning at 7.00 a.m. and the show winners should be determined until the opening of the show at 2.00 p.m. It is to be pointed out again expressly that all judges are stopped to pay attention for a perfect condition of the birds and a clean condition of the cages. According to the general AZ Show Guidelines, injured and obviously ill birds will be removed from the show and placed in a quarantine room. The show responsibles reserve the right to remove questionable birds from the show, e.g. from animal welfare aspects, so that they are not presented to the official veterinarian and the public. However only after disqualification judge, which means that such budgerigars do not correspond to the criteria of the standard and therefore have nothing to do on a show.

The Opening of the Show by the AZ President for visitors and exhibitors is on Saturday at 14.00 and the 1st day of exhibition ends at 18.00 o'clock in the Schwarzwaldhalle. Most breeders will usually be a little later in the beer garden, Alter Brauhof (Beiertheimer Allee 18a) very close to the Congress Centre, to end the day in a "cosy round" with a lot of interesting conversation.



The 2nd day of the exhibition on Sunday is usually the most popular day for visitors, when many breeders and exhibitors have the opportunity to exchange ideas on an international level, especially at lunchtime at the professional catering of the Gauls Company. Also the sales stands of the companies Jung, Witte Molen, Versele Laga, VP Produkte and the Lutz Verlag offer many possibilities to inform themselves or to stock up with appropriate breeding material shortly before the new start of breeding in September.

The Awards Ceremony starts at 12.00 noon on the large show stage of the Schwarzwaldhalle. The delivery of the show birds begins with show end on Sunday from 16.00 o'clock.

In recent years, the proportion of foreign exhibitors has tended to increase compared to German exhibitors, which for me personally underlines the importance of our European Championships on an international level. As the number of members of the individual national associations continues to fall, I believe that the Karlsruhe Championships will become increasingly important in Europe in the future.



The column-free oval of the Schwarzwaldhalle, especially with its light-flooded high rooms, offers an ambience, which, according to many international breeders, is unparalleled in Europe.

Support this extraordinary event with your participation, so that it will stay with us for as many years as possible! All participants, breeders, family members and visitors are cordially invited by the AZ-DWV board to this year's Championships in Karlsruhe. Should any questions remain unanswered, especially for first-time exhibitors please do not hesitate to contact me in writing at my e-mail address xtian.back@gmail.com in good time. Foreign exhibitors are also welcome to contact the WBO President, Carlos Ramoa (vilardemouros@hotmail.com), or its secretary, Ghalib al Nasser (ghalib.alnasser@gmail.com), who can also forward application forms, official veterinary certificates (multilingual) and all other information. Due to my professional activity, I can only be reached by telephone with difficulty and shortly before the Championships almost not at all due to the upcoming preparations. Therefore, every experienced exhibitor should bring his own foresight, planning and initiative before such an important exhibition, for which a breeder has worked for a whole year.

Looking forward to meeting again together in Karlsruhe Your AZ-DWV Chairman, Christian Back