

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 25th Anniversary

The celebration of the 25th 'Birthday' of the FIWC will be organised in Ireland. The Irish Wolfhound Club of Ireland is looking forward to welcoming you - and your national members - at the Irish Wolfhound Club of Ireland Speciality, **9th June 2019 at Castletown House, Celbridge, Co Kildare**. More info shall follow in the next newsletter.

Editor newsletter

If you have news from your national club, please send the info to Gosewien van Klarbergen, assistant secretary FIWC, email gosewien@nobleandsober.com

Words from the new Chairman

Time seems to fly towards the end of the year. The days are short on the northern part of the earth. From our perspective, the sun is a weak source of warmth and security. Therefore it is a good reason to visit each other during the northern winter period, sharing the days and spending time together.

It is also a time of contemplation - looking back at the year with a small distance, recovering the beautiful moments and also processing the poignant and sometimes fresh memories of loss. Or the sharing of days of serene calm and joy because a heavy load has fallen from our shoulders.

With this letter I would like to share the FIWC events of the - almost ending - year with you.

In May a small delegation of the Board came together at the Clubmatch of the Irish Wolfhound



Club of Ireland to honour the former President of the FIWC - Jim Behan - and with great respect and gratitude make him an honourable President of the Federation. Both the surprise and expression of utter joy we will never forget. (see the photo below). The following event was the Congress in June 9th - 10th in Le Touquet



France. This Congress certainly marked a very important transition.

First of all, it saw the presentation of the Illustrated Standard, for which we express heartfelt thanks to the working group presided over by Betty Murphy that created it, with Jim Behan, Jocelyne Gagnè and Outi Piisi-Putta. This booklet was received with great interest by breeders and judges and the first edition immediately sold out. A second edition is now underway, and this will contain some small additions and be enhanced with further images.

Then the decision to modify the Articles of Association, enabling us to extend membership to include non-European clubs and those not belonging to the FCI, in a broader vision of collaboration. Finding the right balance for a text that would make this new reality possible, without questioning the guiding role of the IW Club of Ireland, was not simple. We finally succeeded, thanks also to the fertile discussions with Gerard Clarke, Anthony Dunne, Elisabeth Murphy and Jim Behan. And we hereby welcome the Irish Wolfhound Club of Canada!

On behalf of the FIWC management team we thank Frederic Maison and the whole RALIE team from France for the wonderful work they did in organizing the 2018 Congress and Specialty; a truly faultless edition, which will be fondly remembered for a long time. Thanks also to the reports presented in the following edition of The IW World.

Looking forwards

- One of the major topics in 2019 (and in the years to come) shall be to intensify the willingness to seriously tackle our breed's health issues and to preserve the welfare of the Irish Wolfhound. We have devoted this first phase in order to clarify the needs and sensitivities in a good way by working **together** on the themes that are common to most of the member Clubs. That will allow the Federation to obtain objective results from any human and financial resources engaged. I invite you to read more about this in the next volume of the IW World Magazine in January 2019.

- The FIWC Federation, founded in 1994 in the Netherlands, will celebrate its 25th 'Birthday' in Ireland. The Irish Wolfhound Club of Ireland is looking forward to welcoming you - and your national members - at the Irish Wolfhound Club of Ireland Speciality, 9th June 2019 at Castletown House, Celbridge, Co Kildare. Please mark your calendar and celebrate this upcoming event with us.
- 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.
- As a new appointed Chairman I take the liberty to thank my colleagues and all the Irish Wolfhound fanciers for this honour and for having entrusted me with this delicate role. The Federation has been of great importance for the Irish Wolfhound breed over more than the last two decades. It's impact will be even greater if we show strength and determination in wanting to ensure the evolution of ongoing projects together and in starting new ones. I wish to live up to the task that awaits us.

I wish you a Happy New Year, and all the best to you and yours,

Marcello Poli, Chairman Federation of Irish Wolfhound Clubs

