



European Federation of Farriers Associations

Andreas Furgler, Secretary

c/o Swiss Metal Union / Chräjeninsel 2 / CH – 3270 Aarberg

e-mail: info@eurofarrier.org

EFFA AGM

18th November 2011 / 9am to 4pm

Hotel Catalonia Ramblas / Plaza Catalonia / Barcelona

President: Mr. Flemming Christensen DK

Secretary: Mr. Andreas Furgler CH

Participating members:

Austria:	Georg Rys Jürg Stocker
Czech Republic	Jindrich Vincalek Michaela Kubistova Zdenek Polak
Denmark:	Michael Kjaer Flemming Christensen (EFFA Board member)
Finland:	Thomas von Troil
France:	Dominique Fonseca Denis Leveillard Bernard Vessiller (EFFA Board member)
Germany: EDHV	Konrad Maier Klaus Mäurer (EFFA Board member)
Holland:	Dennis van Heel Chris Oomen
Hungary:	Balázs Gerics Zsolt Ormandi
Norway:	Aksel Vibe Rune Royras
Spain:	Roger Soler-Pont Arturo Marti-Brull
Sweden:	Michael Knap John E. Forbord Peter Frosch (EFFA Board member)
Switzerland:	Richard Hasler Michael Weishaupt (EFFA Accreditation Board member) Andreas Furgler (EFFA Board member)
United Kingdom:	Gary Burton Chris Linssner David Gulley (Former EFFA President) Miles Williamson-Noble (EFFA Registrar & Board member)

Participating Guests:

Algeria:	Yasmina Belabbas, FEA Director Dr. Mohamed Tebbal, FEA Vice-President
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1. Opening and introduction

On behalf of the entire EFFA Board and the Catalonian Farrier Association, Flemming Christensen welcomed all delegates to Barcelona. He is very pleased to see that for the first time in history of EFFA, all member associations have sent representatives in order to support the important work that has been done by EFFA during the last year, and to take part in the social side of our Association.

A warm welcome goes to all those delegates who participate for the first time in our EFFA AGM. A special welcome to our guests from the “Fédération Equestre Algérienne”, represented by its Director, Mrs. Yasmina Belabbas and the Vice-President, Dr. Mohamed Tebbal.

Flemming thanks the organizing team of the Catalonian Farrier Association and especially Roger for the great preparation work without which this congress and AGM would not have been possible.

2. Approval of the AGM minutes 10 Newmarket

The minutes of the AGM of the 20th November 2010 in Newmarket are approved without any comments.

3. Report of the President

“Last year in Newmarket, you elected me as your president and I must say that this year has passed away in just no time. I am pleased to say, that together with my Board members, again we have achieved our goals. It is of course not that easy to work together because we cannot just simply stick our heads together. Our communication has to be very well organized and I must say that due to e-mail communication - the thing worked out pretty well.

The Executive Board had a meeting in May in Zurich at the invitation of our Swiss friends. A quite heavy agenda was prepared by Andreas and Miles. I must admit, that without the preparation of the different items by both Miles and Andy, things wouldn't be so easy for me, as they know. We fixed the main items for the EFFA educational event which was held last October in Aarberg and which we will come back to later in this AGM. We also have taken decisions about what shall be put on the internet and what items have to be changed in order to guarantee better information. I am very pleased to say, that our webpage www.eurofarrier.org today is a source of use- and helpful information for all of us. But I would be grateful if the member associations check regularly their information, and announce to the webmaster if there are omissions or mistakes.

EFFA, represented by its Registrar, was very active on the European platform. We are trying to get into contact with Brussels in the hope of finding solutions which help us in protecting our profession. This, of course, is a marathon and not just simply a sprint. Miles will inform us later today about the latest news in this case. As your President, I am very proud to announce that EFFA has the chance to cooperate in a third LEONARDO DA VINCI project. We are not directly involved as an active partner, but we have, as a European Branch Association, overtaken by a Letter of Intent, that we are guaranteeing for the non EU covered part of the EFFA members in this project. Information about this project "e-hoof" will be given later today by Michael Weishaupt. Thanks in advance to the Swiss Metal Union and the University of Zurich, because without the commitment of both institutions, this EU Grant would not have been possible.”



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4. Report of the Treasurer (accounts 10/11)

Andreas Furgler informs the members about last year's financial situation, which for the second time is showing a deficit.

The details are as follows:

Income:	
Official member fees	€ 13'475.00
C-EF Registration Fee	€ 6'270.00
Interest	€ 108.47
Divers	€ 0.00
Total income	€ 19'853.47
Expenditures:	
Financial administration	€ 127.49
Website	€ 3'020.76
Representation costs president	€ 0.00
Travel expenses executive board	€ 4'854.19
AFA convention, travel expenses	€ 0.00
Administration	€ 0.00
EFFA Educational / eurochampionship	€ 0.00
EFFA C EF Accreditation Board	€ 8'735.33
EFFA AGM	€ 3'000.00
Leonardo Project "e-hoof-glossary"	€ 600.00
Total expenditures:	€ 20'337.77
Benefit / <u>Deficit</u>	-€ 484.30
	€ 19'853.47

5. Report of the Auditor

Having been appointed auditor at our last AGM, Martin Leahy verified on the 17th of Nov 11 the accounts of our Federation for the period of 1st October 2010 until 30th September 2011. He concluded that all financial activities for the year 2010/2011 had been treated in a correct way and that our assets had been managed in accordance with the financial rules.

Therefore he asks the AGM to:

- Accept the balance and the account for 10/11, as presented by the Treasurer
- To give discharge to the treasurer for the account and to thank him
- To give discharge to himself for the duty that he was given at the EFFA AGM 2010 for this period

The delegates accept the balance in the accounts from EFFA for the period of 1st October 2010 to 30th September 2011 and discharge both the Treasurer and the Auditor.



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6. Budget for 2011/12

Andreas Furgler presents the following budget:

Income:	Budget 2012
Official member fees	€ 14'000.00
C-EF Registration Fee	€ 7'000.00
Interest	€ 100.00
Divers	€ 0.00
Total income	€ 21'100.00
Expenditures:	
Financial administration & bank costs	€ 300.00
Web site	€ 3'000.00
Representation costs president	€ 0.00
Travel expenses executive board	€ 5'000.00
AFA convention, travel expenses	€ 0.00
Administration	€ 1'500.00
EFFA Educational / Euro championship	€ 4'000.00
EFFA C EF Accreditation Board	€ 3'000.00
EFFA AGM	€ 5'000.00
Leonardo Project "e-hoof-glossary"	€ 1'000.00
Total expenditures:	€ 22'800.00
Benefit / Deficit	-€ 1'700.00

Discussion:

On behalf of the Austrian Delegation, Georg Rys says that EFFA should not spend 1/4 of its budget in supporting the AGM. He thinks that it is not necessary to organise a large program surrounding the AGM and that delegates should be in a position to pay more themselves.

On behalf of the EFFA Executive Board, Andreas Furgler confirms that the Board will discuss this item on the next official board meeting in March 2012, but there needs to be a solution which does not punish delegates from EFFA members with low budgets. Also he says that the EFFA AGM is the most important formal act of our Federation and therefore it should also be possible to join some time together in order to socialise with members and delegates. If there is only work and no time for anything else, delegates might not join the meeting.

The delegates accept the budget from EFFA for the period of 1st October 2011 to 30th September 2012.



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7. Report of the Accreditation Board

a) Accreditation reports for countries visited in 2011

Miles Williamson Noble informs that the Howard Cooper, President of the Accreditation Board, cannot be with us today, because of health problems, but that he wishes us a good time and interesting deliberations.

From the 2nd to 4th of September, the Accreditation Board visited the Irish Farrier Education and Qualification Program. Howard Cooper, President; Michael Weishaupt, Vice-President; Bernard Vessiller, Member & Miles Williamson-Noble, Registrar were assessing the whole process.

As a conclusion, the EFFA Accreditation Board recommends approval of the Irish training and examination system as approved by the Irish Farriery Authority as meeting the Standards of the European Farrier in the 21st Century as approved by the European Federation of Farriers Associations.

A shortened report of this visit will be put onto the EFFA website.

EFFA Delegates approve all proposals made by the Accreditation Board.

b) Countries to visit / re-visit

Miles Williamson-Noble informs members about the future visits programme:

- 2012 Norway
- 2013 France (June)
- 2014 Switzerland Denmark Finland
- 2015 Austria Czech Republic Hungary
- 2016 Germany Spain (Catalonia) UK
- 2017 Ireland Holland Sweden

Other nations for possible accreditation:

- Iceland

8. Certified Euro - Farrier

Miles Williamson – Noble informs members that as at November 2011 we have a total of 769 EFFA certified farriers. The numbers are:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------|
| • Austria | 58 |
| • Czech Republic | 8 |
| • Denmark | 115 |
| • Finland | 78 |
| • Germany | 108 |
| • Netherlands | 261 |
| • Spain (Catalonia) | 8 |
| • Sweden | 17 |
| • Switzerland | 87 |
| • United Kingdom | 29 |
| Total | 769 |

In order to promote the EFFA certified farrier, the Board was thinking that a new financial system for registration would be helpful. This system would help associations with a lot of members to bring them all into the C-EF system. Therefore the board proposes:



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<i>Number C-EF registered</i>	<i>Fee per individual</i>
• 1 – 100	€10
• 101 – 200	€8
• 201 – 400	€6
• Over 400	No further charge

The effect of this would be to limit any nation's maximum payment to €3000

On behalf of the BFBA, Gary Burton supports this proposal because he could integrate the whole association in one.

The members accept this new calculation model for the C-EF fee.

9. Political Report

Miles Williamson–Noble informs members about the MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS. The report is published in English/German/French under <http://www.eurofarrier.org/en/european-multi-national-rules-and-associations.html>

Due to the fact, that farriery (as a profession) is not even mentioned in the EU-Directive, we have a difficult job in front of us. Not only that we have (and there seems to be little chance) to introduce farriery as a profession mentioned by name, but we have also the fact that people who have at least 6 years of practical experience can ask for mutual recognition.

Discussion:

It seems that when we would like to protect our qualified profession, then we would have to change farriery into a regulated profession (like vets, etc.). Therefore we should try to strengthen the aspect "Animal Welfare", so done in the Czech Republic and in France.

According to this question, the situation within the EFFA member nations is the following:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| - Czech Republic: | Protected profession (education required) |
| - France: | Protected profession (education required or 2 years of practice) |
| - UK: | Regulated profession (registration of farriers FRC) |
| - Norway: | Regulated but not protected profession |
| - Hungary: | No regulation at all |
| - Austria: | Regulated but not protected profession |
| - Spain: | Regulated but not protected profession |
| - Ireland: | Regulated but not protected profession |
| - Germany: | Protected profession (education required / unclear definitions!) |
| - Switzerland: | Regulated but not protected profession |
| - Algeria: | No regulation at all |
| - Netherlands: | Regulated but not protected profession |
| - Sweden: | Regulated but not protected profession |
| - Denmark: | Regulated but not protected profession |

Some members mentioned, that a protection of the profession could only be made if the profession changes from the crafts-corporation into welfare corporation (for example Denmark), but that this brings a lot of problems on the political side.



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10. EFFA Educational Event

The EFFA Educational Event has taken place on 14th & 15th October 2011 at the educational centre of the Swiss Metal Union in Aarberg, Switzerland. The Educational Event was covered by the motto: "Look what you are doing!"

Klaus Mäurer congratulates the Swiss Metal-Union and in special Sigi Dauner and his team. They have made a great job and the EFFA Educational Event 2011 in Aarberg was a great success. All details of the organisation were brilliantly planned and executed. Unfortunately only five Nations sent Apprentices and Instructors to this event. The Swiss Association provided a much bigger capacity for people to come than actually showed up.

In total we counted a participation of 21 apprentices and 13 instructors from Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Netherlands and Switzerland. We showed that the experiment "including theory in the workshop" is possible even if it was difficult because of different languages.

We can say that the date in autumn for such an event is ideal.

It is absolutely important, that we find better ways to promote such activities! How can we get more apprentices / instructors / schools to participate at the EFFA Educational Events in the future and how can we send the invitations to the national associations and schools more efficiently? Do we have the right addresses of the important persons in your association / country to do so?

Educational Events are a good platform for EFFA but we need to make them more effective and more widely supported. Therefore it is important that each member nation defines a responsible "person in the national associations in order to maintain a direct contact to the responsible of EFFA. EFFA should be more active in coaching this "education partner" of our members.

On behalf of the Danish Association, Michael Kjaer informs members that the EFFA Educational Event 2013 will be in Herning. The exact date will be given soon.

Apprentices will have to pay € 150 for full accommodation (including hotel). Masters, Delegates and Guests will have to pay € 150 plus the individual hotel costs.

On behalf of the French Association, Denis Leveillard informs members that the EFFA Educational Event 2015 will be in Normandie (probably last weekend of September).

Details will follow as soon as known.

11. European Championship

On behalf of the Austrian Association, Georg Rys presents the Championship 2012 which will be held in the horse centre Stadl-Paura Wels/Linz from 2nd to 5th August 2012.

All details are published under www.hufschmiedeverband.at or www.eurofarrier.org.

On behalf of the British Association, Gary Burten declares that the Championship in 2014 will be organized in the UK (probably in Stoneleigh).

Further information will be given by next AGM in November 2012.



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Aksel Vibe, Delegate for the Norwegian Farrier Association and passionate farrier competitor presents, based on different existing national competitions rules, a proposal for new EFFA farrier competition guidelines. These guidelines are based on the following principals:

- Background
 - Experience.
 - Inspiration.
- Intentions:
 - Ensure safety for all.
 - Ensure fairness and predictability for all.
 - Make a system you can “grow within” and develop as a professional farrier.
 - Make competitions understandable for all.
 - Make competitions more interesting for sponsors and audience.
- Practical use:
 - Software & website

The AGM takes the decision that:

- a) EFFA shall produce General guidelines for farrier competitions.
- b) The existing Rules for EFFA championship shall be maintained.
- c) Aksel Vibe, Gary Burton & Denis Leveillard shall work together to present these guidelines.
- d) A first draft should be presented by Aksel Vibe at the Board Meeting in March 2012 in Sweden.
- e) The final version should be voted on by the delegates at the AGM 2012 in Helsinki.

Flemming Christensen congratulates Aksel Vibe for his proposal and motivation. He thanks him for the work that Aksel is willing to undertake in order to bring this work group together.

12. Annual general meeting

Thomas von Troil, representing our Finnish members confirms that his Association will organize the next **AGM in Helsinki from Thursday, 1st November to Sunday 4th November 2012.**

Jindrich Vincalek, President of the Czech Republic Member, invites EFFA to hold the **AGM in 2013 in Prague.**

Zsolt Ormandi, President of the Hungarian Farrier Association, invites EFFA to hold the **AGM in 2014 in Budapest.**

13. World Skills Europe

Chris Oomen, Chief Expert for the Farrier Competition within the World-Skills-Europe informs about the 3rd edition of this Skills. After Rotterdam (2008) and Lisbon (2010), Spa Francorchamps (Belgium) will hold the Skills from 4th to 6th of October 2012.

The competition consists of 4 tests: two shoeings with factory made shoes, shoe making on specimen shoes and eagle eye.

A condition for participation of our farriery trade is that at least 6 competitors (one per nation) not older than 25 are participating and that every competitor brings an expert. All experts make the specimens and are functioning as judges.

Inscriptions have to make throughout the national Skill-Organizations. They can be found under: www.euroskills.org. EFFA's role within the World-Skills-Europe Organization is to participate as an active member in order to discuss and guide the technical organization of the competitions to control quality. All EFFA members are asked to send their junior national farrier champion to the World-Skills-Europe. It is important that we show up with a large group of competitors.



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14. www.eurofarrier.org

Andreas Furgler presents the latest news about our website. Besides the fact that a website can only stay attractive if the content is maintained and regularly updated with new information, it is absolutely important that all members are indicating if they have something that should be added to or changed within the website.

All members are kindly asked to send new pictures of interesting things around the farriery trade and associations.

It is decided that the homepage shall remain for the next year under the responsibility of Andreas Furgler (Treasurer) but that the EFFA Board will decide how the website shall be organized and managed after end of 2012.

15. Leonardo da Vinci Project “e-hoof”

Michael Weishaupt, Project Leader, informs the members about this 3rd Leonardo Project in which EFFA is involved. The project has the following active partners.

- **CH** **University of Zurich (Project Leader)**
Isabel Imboden, Dagmar Sens, Michael Weishaupt
- CH **Swiss-Metal Union** / Andreas Furgler
- UK **Royal Veterinary College** / Stephen May, Thilo Pfau,
Thomas Witte, Renate Weller, Chris Pardoe, Peter Day
- UK **British Farrier and Blacksmith Association**
Miles Williamson-Noble, Gary Burton
- FR **Union Français des Maréchaux**
Denis Leveillard, Dominique Fonseca
- DE **Erster Deutscher Hufschmiedeverband**
Martin Schenk, Paul Hellmeier
- AT **Österreichischer Hufschmiedeverband** / Georg Rys
- NL **Nederlandse Vereniging van Hoefsmeden**
Chris Oomen, Gertjan Korsman
- ES **Associació de Ferradors de Catalunya**
Roger Soler-Pont, Reig Hargreaves
- SE **Svenska Hovslagareföreningen**
Ulf Hedenström, Michael Knap
- DK **Danish Farrier Association**
Flemming Christensen, Michael Kjaer
- CZ **Živnostenské společenství podkovářů**
Jindrich Vincalek, Zdenek Zert

The whole project is divided in different Work packages:

- **WP1** English version 1.0 of eHoof with approx. 110 chapters, 3100 image legends, 1200 glossary term definitions what equals approx. 39'000 lines (DIN A4, Times Roman 11pt).
Authoring, translation, editorial work
- **WP2** Updating of the content, complementing with the EFFA Handbook of Farriery
- **WP3** CPD modules: “Biomechanics of the hoof and the horse”, “Sports-specific shoeing”, “Laminitis” Self-assessment module (cases & MC)
- **WP4** Multilingual glossary, terms German, English, French, Dutch, Swedish, Danish, Spanish, Italian and Czech definitions of the terms in German, English, French



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- **WP5** Production of the storyboards and needed medias, content transfer to web-based database
- **WP6** Migration of the application to a web-based system
- **WP7** Dissemination of the educational tool

The time schedule for the project:

- Start: November 2011
- End: June 2013
- Milestones «terms»:
 - Preparation WP completed & distributed end of November 2011
 - Translation completed end of May 2012
 - Editing completed end of September 2012
 - Proof reading completed end of November 2012
- Milestone «definitions»:
 - Translation completed by GT end of May 2012
 - Editing completed end of October 2012
 - Proof reading completed end of January 2013
- Milestones «media»:
 - Completion of media insertion end of April 2013
- Periodical reporting, ever 6 months
- Payment of compensations upon achievements/reports

16. Election of EFFA Board members

Due to the EFFA rules & procedures, Board members have to be reelected every three years. This year we have to reelect:

- **Peppe Frosch**, Sweden, Vice-President / since 2008 Board member of EFFA. Peppe is reelected as Vice-President for the period 2012-2014.
- **Andreas Furgler**, Switzerland, Treasurer & Secretary /since 2001 Board member of EFFA. Andreas is reelected as treasurer for the period 2012-2014.
- **Miles Williamson-Noble**, United Kingdom, Registrar /since 2010 Board member of EFFA. Miles is overtaking, in accordance with the rules of EFFA, the duty of Secretary from Andreas, and he therefore is reelected as Registrar/Secretary for the period 2012-2014.

Klaus Mäurer, responsible Board member for the Educational Event is resigning from the Board.

- **Siegfried Dauner**, Switzerland, is elected as the new Board member responsible for education items for the period 2012-2014.

17. Matters arising

The delegates are declaring that EFFA must, in order to get more influence in the discussion about the welfare of the horse and in order to “protect” our profession, look to reinforce the contact with the Vet Associations throughout the member nations but also on the EU level. Also it must be necessary to get into a closer contact with horse breeding associations and other organizations that are willing to cooperate with professional farriers.

Flemming Christensen, EFFA President, thanks once again our Catalan Friends for the perfect organization of this AGM and he expresses his thanks to his colleagues within the Board. He confirms that only the team can be successful!

The minutes will be published on the EFFA Homepage and sent as PDF to all participants.

On behalf of the EFFA Board

Sig. Andreas Furgler

Barcelona/Aarberg November 2011