



Brief Report from ISG Meeting to NASS Members July 1, 2008

Elaine Kerrigan, Adele Furby and Kathy Richkind represented NASS at the ISG meeting on June 14 in Topolcianky, Slovakia. This was the 25th anniversary meeting of ISG and the 100th anniversary of the Topolcianky National Stud, the Slovakian breeding center for Shagya Arabians, Lipizzans and native Huzul ponies. In addition to the normal yearly agenda items, the admission of ASAV to ISG was also the subject of much debate and voting. ASAV was represented by Dennis and Irmi Atam and Egon Komarasy. The motion which was presented was to make an "exception" to the ISG "one country, one society" rule for the United States, and to allow another society from the USA as an ISG member if such a society could meet all ISG requirements. This motion was presented as a suggested "solution" to end the large volume of complaints which ISG BoD members stated that they have received from various individuals in the US. The final vote to pass this motion was 673 yes, 398 no, and 562 abstain. Because the motion did not receive a 50% yes vote (which would have required 817 yes votes), the motion failed. The ASAV representatives immediately protested the voting outcome and demanded a revote. The ISG voting rules were read to the meeting attendants by the ISG president, Mr Al Sammaraie, confirming that the voting results were clearly in conformity with the ISG regulations regarding voting. Nevertheless, a motion to ask for a revote on this issue was made, and that question was resoundingly defeated by a nearly unanimous vote.

In addition, our delegates were able to review our proposed stallion performance requirements with the ISG board, and these met with unanimous approval from the board members. The delegates also discussed the proposed NASS stallion performance requirements with delegates from other countries and found that we are very consistent with several other countries in our approach to meeting this ISG requirement.

In addition to the ISG meeting, a gala 100th anniversary show featuring Lippizans, Shagyas and Huzuls was held by the Topolcianky stud that weekend, and NASS member Hallie Goetz participated as a learner judge in that show. NASS member Shelly Housh also attended the meeting and show.

A more complete report of these proceedings will be available in the next NASS newsletter.