

SLOVENIAN TERRIER CLUB SINCE 1994

by Brigita Kremser

Establishment of Slovenian Terrier Club dates to the post-independence times when citizens of the independent state of Slovenia for the first time in modern history were living in their national country. In the air prevailed positive and creative atmosphere. In this spirit, the Slovenian cynology work in the field of international establishment and adjustment of the activity rules to the new situation, new opportunities. A new statute of Slovenian Kennel Club was accepted, which after about two decades again allowed the creation of breed clubs. This fact was really important for everybody who was involved in cynology. Those who have cultivated international contacts, the absence of the clubs experienced as a specific deficiency. When they talked to foreign breeders, there was difficult to explain what are the breeding committee, what are its responsibilities and how can even function without breed clubs.

Organized Slovenian cynology began with the breed club - in 1921 established the Association of Pointing dogs - with a formal territorial jurisdiction of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenians with registered seat in Ljubljana. In the early seventies, the party in Slovenia carried out a purge against all 'liberal-bourgeois' deposits. They reversed were also hunting breed organizations, organizations for non-hunting breeds were not existing yet. All over the world, as well as in Slovenia, often comes to the fore the fact that is hard to function without clubs but on the other hand is had to function also with them. Breed clubs are always a mix of sociability, associations and companies and professionals.

Slovenian Terrier Club was established on 28th of January 1994 in Ljubljana, with registered seat in Črna vas 114, Ljubljana. It was developed from the National breeding Committee for terriers, molossoids and big breeds, members of which were: Mrs. Jelka Simčič, Mr. Rajko Rotner, Mr. Štefan Šinko, Mr. Janez Plestenjak and Mrs. Cvetka Bogovčič.

Founding members were:

Cvetka Bogovčič, Štefan Šinko, Karmen Zahariaš, Vojko Zidar, Taja Zidar, Marjan Pipan, Janez Selišnik,



Maja Tratnik, Vesna Baloh and Rudi Baloh.

Mrs. Cvetka Bogovčič was selected for president of the Club, Mrs. Karmen Zahariaš for secretary and Mr. Štefan Šinko was responsible for breeding.

The tasks and purpose of Slovenian Terrier Club are defined in its statute:

- gathering and connecting owners, breeders and lovers of all terriers,
- consulting to owners and breeders about buying dogs, training, general care of the dog and grooming and nutrition (maintenance a type of terriers, health care, character, quality breeding etc.)
- Informing members about breed standards, origin and purpose of terriers
- Conducting systematic breeding of terriers, organization of exterior evaluations, breeding examinations, shows and other events for Terriers
- Care for professional development of breeders and cynological judges, student judges and other experts.

In 1999 Club got under its wing breeding committee, which was according to Statute of Slovenian Kennel Club, composed of cynological judges and student judges and confirmed at the judges Assembly. Members of Breeding Committee were: Mr. Štefan Šinko as the President, Mrs. Brigita Kremser as the Vice President, Mr. Branislav Rajič, Mr. Matej Feguš and Mr. Boris Baič.

Presidents of Slovenian Terrier Club up to now:

Cvetka Bogovčič, Maja Tratnik, Matej Feguš and current president Brigita Kremser.

Mrs. Cvetka Bogovčič about the Club:

"When we had the first opportunity to establish an independent breed club, we - members of the so called then Breeding Commission for Dogues, big breeds, molossoids and Terriers - grabbed this opportunity with open arms. The greater part of the breeding committee members were members of the II. FCI group. Me as the only »terrier person« began to create a new path for the new club, with the clear support of Mr. Štefan

Šinko and other members of Breeding Commission. And so we start meeting at one pub in Old Town in Ljubljana every Tuesday evening. We had a nice time together, great ideas were infinite and Slovenian Terrier Club has also got its official shape and appearance. All of us who were then members of the club, we strive to maximize people's awareness of purebred dogs, we had a lot of meetings and we began organising special shows under the International shows. In short, on that time I only have beautiful memories, full of momentum, enthusiasm and positive energy."



Mrs. Bogovič (in the middle)

We have around 100 members. Our members in all twenty-year period of operation of the club took good care that also social side of the club was always active – picnics, publication of Club's newsletter *Terierčkovi*, every year we organise special competition **TOP TERRIER**, lately we gave a lot of our attention to Club's website. The regular club events also include **various seminars and courses**. I would especially highlight seminars about Staffordshire Bullterriers by Hubery Audrey and Alan Hedges from Great Britain, Jack Russel and Parson Russel Terriers by Luis Gorjão Henriques from Portugal, which we organised on 17 April 2015. We encourage our members to get involved with various activities with their terriers. Very popular is **mini-coursing** which we organise in collaboration with our member Karmen Zahariaš and her dog school *Priden.si*. We also work with the Club for earth dogs, since quite a few of our members are interested in **earthdog work**.

Occasionally we organize **grooming seminars for terrier breeds**.

One of the most important thing for us is health of dogs, therefore we try very hard to organise different health examinations and seminars about genetics. Last

year we invited a veterinary from abroad and organised **BAER testing**, which is still not available in Slovenia. We cooperate with different providers of **health tests**.

Regular club events are **spring and autumn breeding examinations** and organization of two international dog shows **CACIB Maribor and CACIB Pohorje**.

Last year Slovenian Kennel Club set the new rule, that every breed Club needs to organise **two club shows with CAC title**. Our second club show this year will be held on **2nd of September 2017** in Polhov Gradec, the same as last year.

Every year we organise special competition **Top terrier**. Last year **Top terrier 2016** was jack russel terrier **Touchstar Clash of Clans**, owned by Petra Prijatelj and Janez Plestenjak.

Slovenian Terrier Club is a member of Slovenian Kennel Club and International Association of terrier Clubs – **INTERRA**, www.interra-terrier.com. Our member Mrs. Petra Prijatelj has been voted for editor of *Interra*. On regular annual General Assembly of *Interra* in December 2014 we successfully represented our Slovenian Terrier Club and got the opportunity to organise **Special Show of Interra** on 17th of April 2017, which is great honour for us. This is already 21th special show of terriers under our organisation.

In September 2014, we celebrated **20th anniversary of our Club**. At this occasion, we bestowed Slovenian Kennel Club awards in our Club for the first time. Awards were given to our Club members for a long and successful work in the field of breeding, showing and training of the terriers and good work at the club.

Recipients of the **silver order**: Tina Sterguljc Krušič, Masa Feguš Široka, Matej Feguš, Branislav Rajič, Tjaša Florindo Ružnič, Đurđica Bergant, Karmen Zahariaš, Mirja Lapanja, Andrej Oman, Gregor Gorazd Namestnik, Nika Klobučar, Breda Lednik Copot, Marko Grašinar, Branka Lutman, Meta Zakrajšek, Klara Škopelja, Natalija Dragan Gajari and Erika Kremser.

Recipients of the **golden order**: Štefan Šinko and Janja Beg.

Recipients of the **I. level order**: Maja Korošec, Darjo Korošec and Janez Plestenjak.

Brigita Kremser was awarded with **II. level order**.

"We are the center of their universe. We are the focus of their love and faith and trust. They serve us in return for scraps. It is without a doubt the best deal man has ever made."

(Roger Caras)

Brigita Kremser – President of Slovenian Terrier Club

Brigita was born in a pleasant family without dogs and now works as a professor of mathematics on secondary school. Her life is fulfilled with happy family and has three children: boys Tadej, Stef and daughter Petja.

First cynological steps were made at the end of primary school, aged 14, when she became a proud owner of her first Rough Collie. Together they attended training classes and passed Obedience exam and as well started with the Dog Shows.

Brigita and her mother established kennel "Brigoree" and soon in 1986 they had first Collie litter and Westie's in 1993. They bred Rough Collies and Bichon Frises, but now they breed only West Highland White Terriers. Their breeds' representatives have accomplished more than 100 Junior European, International, National and Club champions and are among most successful dogs in Slovenia.

She became a judge in 1991 and is eligible to judge the complete FCI groups I., II., III. and the IX. on an International level. Until now she was honoured to judge the breeds from all mentioned groups on the World, European, International, National and Special shows in Slovenia, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Ireland, Portugal, Germany, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Austria, Italy, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Russia, Hungary, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia and Bosnia.

Cynological Association of Slovenia (CAS) with Educational Committee dedicated her the privilege to be an examiner for new judges and previously served in CAS as a member of Supervising Committee and Judges Committee. In 2014 she became the President of Slovenian Terrier Club (SKT) and is also Vice President of Breeding Committee in Slovenian Terriers Club and Board member of Slovenian Club for toy dogs.



Beside that she is actively involved as a member in Breeding Committee of Slovenian Club for British Sheepdogs, Sheepdogs and Cattle dogs and Breeding Committee of Slovenian Club for Toy dogs. She was also a member of Organising Committee for EURODOGSHOW CELJE 2010. Nevertheless, she is as well active member of Organizing Committee for Maribor Dog Shows, where are annually organized and held double International Dog Shows accompanied with a terrier Speciality Show by Slovenian Terrier Club and Slovenian Club for German Boxers.

