

## General meeting of the Teckel World Union (WUT) 2023

On October 14, 2023, after a three-year break, the WUT general meeting took place in Lucca (Italy). Of the 26 WUT member countries, 18 attended the meeting.

Andreas Tornau, who led WUT as Vice President after S. Middendorf's early resignation in November 2022, invited the event.

The meeting was organized by the Italian Dachshund Club. Thank you very much for that.

Because the countries haven't met for more than three years due to the pandemic, there was really a lot to discuss. The mood was good and the spirit of optimism could be felt.

But first things first. At the beginning, Andreas Tornau reported to the members. The auditors requested that the board be discharged, which was then done. The upcoming new elections brought the following results. Mr. Josef Ramacher was elected as President of WUT and Mr. Andreas Tornau was elected as Vice-President, both unanimously. Ms. Vanessa Fuß was elected as the new managing director in absentia.

The new president as well as the old and new vice president thanked those present for the trust placed in them and outlined the first important steps.

WUT's efforts to create the possibility of harmonizing breeding approval regulations require, as a first step, the introduction of DNA-based proof of ancestry of breeding animals in as many member countries as possible. It was agreed to develop a matrix regarding the respective breeding requirements of the breeding clubs and the very different national animal welfare regulations that must be observed. Mr. Ramacher suggested upgrading the statutes and reviewing the best possible legal form for WUT. The member states present also supported this

Hungary had applied to be represented from now on by two national dachshund breeding associations (Hungarian Dachshund Breeders' Association and National Association of Hungarian Dachshund Owners). This request was approved. India has contacted WUT about possible membership.

The dates for the WUT meetings, the WUT World Winners Exhibition and the WUT-SchwPoR from 2024 to 2028 were then agreed.

At the invitation of the Italian Teckel Club, the country representatives spent the evening together in the beautiful old town of Lucca. A big thank you to the Amici Bassotto Club. The next WUT meeting will take place in Prague from February 17-18, 2024.