

# **ESVC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**ECVIM Congress, 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 2025**

**Maastricht, the Netherlands**

## **Minutes**

### **1. Present and apologies for absence:**

Present:

Simon Swift, Serena Crosara, Roberto Santilli, Mark Dirven, Aleksandra Domanjko-Petric, Fabio Sarcinella, Sonja Fonfara, Liva Vatne, Estelle Henrich, Maximiliane Kaline, Sophia Schaefer, Jens Haggstrom, Karin Kristrom, Olof Sjobring, Valentina Palermo, Pam Hooijmaaijer, Hanneke van Meeuwen, Sonja Sinzinger, Michael Meijer, Erika Cider, Francesco Porciello, Nuno Pereira, Marco Baron Toaldo, Liz Bode, Jo Dukes-McEwan, Melissa Papp, Paul Motskula, Giorgia Santarelli, Hayley McDonald, Mikkel Brandt Bjerknes, Ingrid Ljungvall, Pia Kristina Zagar, Tobias Urbanschitz, Claude Muller, Maria Wiberg, Anders Eriksson, Frederic Chiren, Frane Ivasovic, Nora Schreiber, Marta Claretti, Michele Borgarelli, Luca Ferasin, Maria Ines Oliveira, Omri Belachsen, Gemma Pedrosa Sala, Flurin Tschuor, Stefano Battaia, Veronique Liekens, Geoff Culshaw, Merit Villemson-Kavak, Marin Torti, Jana Frederich, Jenny Eberhard, Mikael Svensson, Stefano Oricco, Nicole van Israel, Marine Lekane, Gitte Mampaey, Pascale Smets, Arnaut Hellemans, Tom Boumans, Noriko Isayama, Dan Ohad, Gabriel Wurtinger, Rabea Berg, Claudia Vollmar, Andrei Baisan, Andrei Tutuneanu, Melanie Bouwmeester.

Non-members attending meeting: Byung-Jun Kim, Margot Gheeraert, Ana Tutuneanu

Apologies for absence:

Lisbeth Høier Olsen, Ruth Willis, Jose Novo Matos

### **2. Approval of agenda (SS)**

The agenda was unanimously approved

### **3. Approval of the minutes of the ESVC annual general meeting 2024 (SS)**

The minutes were unanimously approved

### **4. Secretary report (SS)**

There are 454 members plus 11 honorary members as of the end August 2025, a slight decline since last year. Germany is still the most represented country followed by the UK. Members were reminded that if their name is in the membership directory on the website, if not, they should check that they have paid the membership fee.

## 5. Financial matters (MD)

The financial report from 2023 has been audited and approved by Hanneke van Meeuwen and Mikael Svensson.

The society has two bank accounts, one held by the society (Europe) for invoices, sponsorship and JVS; one VIN account (USA) for membership fees.

Credits (income): membership, JVC royalties and fee to cover expenses.

Debits (expenses): grants, awards and JVC royalties

No pregress day in 2024.

The financial situation is quite healthy; there is a small loss this year. We are expecting lower expenses from the pregress this year compared with the pregress in Barcelona in 2023.

The society needs two auditors to approve the financial report for 2024. Mikael Svensson and Hanneke van Meeuwen from the Netherlands have been proposed for re-election by the treasurer, and both have offered to fill these roles again. The floor agrees.

2024 closed with a balance of 78662,27 euro.

2025 has a preliminary balance of 91532,16 euro.

The society is a non-profit organization and a reserve can be kept as a surplus. The floor was unanimously in favour of keeping the surplus in the bank account as a reserve.

Financial report was approved unanimously.

There were no questions from the floor.

Acknowledgements: MD expresses his gratitude to VIN, and to Mark Rishniw in particular, for their involvement, dealing with membership fees, providing the Paypal account and the running of the ESVC website.

Simon added a comment regarding the cost of providing on-demand/digital access to the pregress. Despite a high number of participants and sponsorship and reduction of costs for the pregress this year, financially it has still proven difficult to break even. Online attendance of pregress day is a net cost, but we feel that it is important to offer this to members who are unable to attend in person.

## 6. Update of JVC (SF)

Sonja Fonfara reminded the audience that ESVC membership includes JVC subscription – a journal that is run, owned and supported by the society. JVC is endorsed and supported by both the ACVIM and the ECVIM cardiology specialties.

Editors in chief:

#### Editorial board:

Jonathan Abbott, Marco Baron Toaldo, John Bonagura, Mark Dirven, Philip R. Fox, Lisbeth Hoier Olsen, Hyeon Jeong, Gunther van Loon, Jordi López-Alvarez, Giulio Menciotti, Lynne O'Sullivan, Pedro Oliveira, E. Christopher Orton, Romain Pariaut, Brian Scansen, Anna Tidholm, Massimiliano Tursi, Sonya Wesselowski.

#### Presentation of submissions, editorial outcomes and published counts:

- The number of submitted papers have increased from 2022, however there is a slight decrease in published papers since 2022. The desk rejection was high in 2024 at 45%.
- Number of submitted papers as of April this year: 35
- Publication process for 2024 is similar to other journals at around 234 days from submission to first publication online, ie shorter than it was in 2023 at 302 days
- The number of online downloads increased to 285.000 in 2024, ie a good usage of the journal
- The cite score was slightly lower than other journals (such as JSAP, JVIM, JAAHA) but stable in comparison with previous years.
- Special issue: 'The Mitral and Tricuspid Valves'
  - Guest editors: Dr Chris Orton, Dr Giulio Menciotti
  - Submission deadline: September 30<sup>th</sup> 2025
- Special issue: 'Advanced Cardiac Imaging' - 2025
  - Guest editor: Dr Brian Scansen.

The Editors in Chief stated that reviewers are the key to scientific publishing and thanked all contributors. Delegates were asked to update their user profile, including areas of interest/expertise. Continue to submit manuscripts

Comment from Michele Borgarelli about the importance of having contributors, reiterating that the JVC is our journal, and that publication is free as opposed to many other journals which might even provide lower quality manuscripts.

### 7. Amendments to the constitution (SS)

The amendment of our Constitution is a work in progress. There is a need to modernise the language and to reflect the fact that we have separate secretary and treasurer roles on the board due to increased workload. The possibility of digital voting will also be added to the amendment. The new version will be presented to the members for voting at the AGM in 2026.

### 8. Board members – voting (SS)

It is the year of the presidential shuffle. The board would like to propose a big thank you to Lisbeth Høier Olsen who will finish her term as past president and leave the board this year. This role will be filled by Simon Swift as of January 2026. Serena Crosara will take over the role as president and an election is needed for new president elect.

The board proposes Aleksandra Domanjko-Petric for this role, who has accepted. There were no other candidates from the floor. Aleksandra was unanimously voted in as the next president elect.

One new board member will be needed for 2025, new and existing board members can run for election/ re-election. There were three nominations and there were no other candidates from the floor. Digital voting was performed during the meeting using a QR code. Dr Jose Novo Matos was duly elected.

## **9. Precongress and ECVIM congress 2025 (SS)**

Summary of the ESVC precongress 2025:

- 7 talks
- Panel discussion
- 5 speakers, 3 EU, 1 USA, 1 Asia

Summary of the ECVIM congress 2025:

- 5 talks, 4 speakers, 3 EU, 1 USA
- Abstracts – 32 oral presentations, 20 oral presentations
- 2 research reports
- Annual general meeting - AGM
- Diplomates' meeting
- Residents' meeting
- Exam information meeting

Information about next year's meeting:

- No precongress next year
- Main congress 10th – 12th September 2026, Estrel, Berlin, Germany
- Suggestions on topic and speakers for the ECVIM congress 2026 are welcome. Suggestions should be sent to board members as soon as possible.
- QR code shared during the meeting and will also be sent by e-mail to all members.

## **10. ESVC Research grant 2025 (SS)**

This year the research grant will be awarded in honour of Dr Jonathan Bouvard.

There were three applicants for the ESVC research grant 2025. The scientific committee has evaluated the proposals and the successful applicant was:

Prisco, Fransesco et al: Proteomic profiling of feline HCM to uncover pathomechanism and biomarkers. Zurich University. The project will be awarded 10.894 euros.

## **11. Announcement of prizes for best resident/young investigator abstract/oral presentations 2024 (SS)**

**Oral:**

1. Alessandra Franchini : Three-dimensional echocardiographic determinants of the age of onset of myxomatous mitral valve disease in Cavalier King Charles Spaniels dogs. 1000 euros + BSAVA book
2. Brogan Atkinson: Echocardiographic indices of reverse cardiac remodeling and outcome predictors in dogs undergoing mitral valve repair. 800 euros
3. Alessandra Maffei: New electrocardiographic algorithm for the diagnosis of fast supraventricular tachycardias in dogs. 500 euros

## **Posters**

1. Giovanni Grosso : Echocardiographic reference intervals of the two- and three-dimensional size of the right atrium: a prospective study in 195 healthy dogs. 500 euros + BSAVA book
2. Giovanni Grosso: Effect of echocardiographic imaging view and imaging mode on variability of left ventricular wall thickness measurements in normal cats and cats with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. 300 euros.
3. Berenice Bichelberger: A case series of 5 cats with bacterial pericarditis with purulent pericardial effusion. 150 euros.

## **12. Task force progression (SS)**

On behalf of Lisbeth Høier Olsen who could not join us today, Simon updated the progression of the publication about the mitral valve breeding programme. The authors are working hard and planning to submit this paper for the special issue of the JVC, due in October this year.

## **13. Proposals from the board: (SS)**

### **A. The ESVC abstract and poster prizes remain as previously:**

- 1st Prize oral presentation 1000 euro + BSAVA book
- 2nd Prize oral presentation 800 euro
- 3rd Prize presentation 500 euro
- 1st Prize poster presentation 500 euro + BSAVA book
- 2nd Prize poster presentation 300 euro
- 3rd Prize poster presentation 150 euro

### **B. The ESVC Clinical Research Fund**

The amount remains as previously at 30.000 euro

The grant can be divided between two applicants, and the period is up to 2 years running from the date the grant was received.

### **C. Precongress participation**

Free for PhD students and residents if they are members of the ESVC

### **D. Membership fee**

No change this year

The proposals were unanimously approved

**14.**Any other business:

No other business from the floor.

L. Vatne  
ESVC Secretary