Confédération Ornithologique Mondiale

Président Général, Carlos Fernando RAMÔA

Ordre Mondial des Juges

Président : João LIBERADO

GENERAL OMJ TECHNICAL CONGRESS - SEVILLE (ES) 7 et 8 August 2026

REPORT SECTION E

Meeting chaired by Jorge Quintas

OMJ Section E Responsible

Secretary: Paulo Ferreira - OMJ Judge

Countries and National Representatives

Portugal – Vilas Boas**; Bruno Cardoso**

Espanha - Antonio Guerrero Cubillana, Ivan Ruiz Benitez, Francisco Hidalgo Sanches, Jose Quirós Velásquez, Jose Antonio Rejas, Francisco Palos, Enrique Garcia Bonito

França – Didier Faessel

Reino Unido – Simon Tammam

Bélgica – Jos Vanopen

Turquia – Aziz Çetin**, Oguz Ozkaya**

Países Baixos – Albert Zomer

Líbano – Ara Kibarian

Alemanha – Andreas Stamm

Itália – Francesco Badalamenti

Brasil – Cesar Wenceslau

Uruguai (Zoom) – Diego Pena

Argentina (Zoom) – Roberto Arias

Malta (Zoom) – Mark Scicluna, Rudolph Falzon**, Mario Farrugia**

Confédération Ornithologique Mondiale

Président Général, Carlos Fernando RAMÔA

Ordre Mondial des Juges

Président : João LIBERADO

Agenda

Discussion of OMJ Technical Proposals

1) OMJ Proposals
    a. Grouping of classes with few entries
    b. Right to examine birds and use technology in cases of suspected fraud
2) United Kingdom Proposal - Rules for proposals to amend standards
3) Gloster Fancy Proposals
    a. United Kingdom Proposal - Change of wording to “tendency towards the diminutive” in the Size section
    b. Belgium Proposal - Adoption of the new GFCC UK 2025 drawings
    c. Malta Proposal - Gloster show cage
4) Fife Fancy Proposals
    a. United Kingdom Proposal - Amendment of the Size and Colour sections of the Standard
    b. United Kingdom Proposal - New technical drawings for the Standards
    c. Belgium Proposal - Photographs of excellent-quality birds for the OMJ Standards
5) German Crested Proposals
    a. Germany Proposal - Request for clarification concerning teams of lipochrome birds
    b. Italy Proposal - Amendment of the Standard
6) Amendment of the Border Standard - Italy Proposal
7) Amendment of the Norwich Standard - Italy Proposal
8) Amendment of the Salentino Standard - Italy Proposal
9) Amendment of the Scotch Fancy Standard - Italy Proposal
10) Amendment of the Yorkshire Standard - Italy Proposal
11) Amendment of the Spanish Giboso Standard - Spain Proposal
12) Proposal to amend perch/show-cage specifications for the Portuguese Harlequin - Spain Proposal
13) Proposal for the new Maringá breed - Brazil Proposal
14) Proposal on rules for updating OMJ/COM Standards - Brazil Proposal
15) Amendment of London Fancy classes - Belgium Proposal (already discussed in 2024)

Technical discussion of relevant topics

1) Cinnamon/Brown London Fancy - Clarification/confirmation of eligibility for competition
2) Improvement of photographs in OMJ Standards

Ordre Mondial des Juges : Président : João LIBERADO : Email : liberado.expert.juge@gmail.com
Ordre Mondial des Juges : Secrétaire : Jorge QUINTAS : Email : jorgequintas70@hotmail.com
Confédération Ornithologique Mondiale : Président Général : Carlos Fernando RAMÔA : Email : vilardemouros@hotmail.com

Voting and Final Decisions

1) **OMJ Proposals**

a. **Grouping of classes with few entries**

It was proposed that, where an individual class does not contain enough entries - fewer than 5 birds - the birds should be regrouped into compatible, broader classes. This regrouping of classes will be assessed and studied for 3 years, after which it will be decided whether the regrouping should be maintained or the original classes reopened. Sections F2 and G, and other Sections and Classes where particular difficulties arise, are excluded.

Voting – 12 votes in favour (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Malta) and 2 votes against (Türkiye e Belgium)

>> Proposal Approved

Final Decision

Group together classes with few birds entered in competition. Review the situation after 3 years.

b. **Right to examine birds and use technology in cases of suspected fraud**

At World Championships and international shows, where fraud is suspected in birds entered in competition, COM/OMJ reserves the right to handle and examine the birds and/or to use technology or feather analyses to examine suspect birds. Such examinations must always be carried out in the presence of COM or OMJ supervisors.

Voting – 14 votes in favour (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Malta, Türkiye e Belgium)

>> Proposal Approved Unanimously

Final Decision

COM/OMJ reserves the right to handle and examine birds and/or to use all available technologies to detect and prove fraud at international shows and World Championships, always in the presence of a COM or OMJ supervisor.

Ordre Mondial des Juges : Président : João LIBERADO : Email : liberado.expert.juge@gmail.com
Ordre Mondial des Juges : Secrétaire : Jorge QUINTAS : Email : jorgequintas70@hotmail.com
Confédération Ornithologique Mondiale : Président Général : Carlos Fernando RAMÔA : Email : vilardemouros@hotmail.com

2) **United Kingdom Proposal - Rule for proposals to amend standards**

The United Kingdom proposes that any proposal to amend a standard should have the approval of the national representatives of the breed's country of origin. This is an administrative proposal rather than a technical proposal.

It was nevertheless clarified that, at the 2024 Congress in Portugal, it had already been reiterated that proposals to amend standards should ideally be preceded by formal consultation with the breeds' countries of origin.

Voting - As this was not a technical proposal, it was not put to a vote.

3) **Gloster Fancy Proposals**

a. **United Kingdom Proposal - Change of wording to "tendency to the diminutive" in the Size.**

Amend the wording of the Size section so that it once again states "tendency to the diminutive", thereby reinforcing that, in the Gloster, the smallest possible size is a fundamental breed characteristic.

The Gloster Fancy Standard already states "as small as possible", emphasising its miniature-breed characteristic; nevertheless, the proposal submitted by the breed's country of origin to amend the wording of the Size section was put to a vote.

Voting – 14 votes in favour (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Malta, Türkiye e Belgium)

>> Proposal Approved Unanimously

Final Decision

Amend the wording of the Size of the Gloster Standard to "Tendency to the diminutive (Max. 11 cm)".

b. **United Kingdom and Belgium Proposal - Adoption of the new GFCC UK 2025 drawings**

Both countries proposed adopting the new drawings approved by GFCC UK in 2025, arguing that they are more comprehensive and portray the breed standard more faithfully than the current drawings.

Following debate, the general view of the countries was that the current drawings should not be changed. It was also stated that the express approval of both IGBA and GFCC would be important for any change to the technical drawings in the standard.

Voting – 4 votes in favour (United Kingdom, Belgium, Malta e Germany) e 10 votes against (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Netherlands, Lebanon, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Türkiye)

>> Proposal Rejected

Final Decision

Keep the technical drawings in the Gloster Fancy Breed Standard unchanged.

c. **Malta Proposal - Gloster show cage**

Proposal to recognise the C4-type (Gloster) cage with 2 oval perches, spaced 7.5 cm apart and measuring 12 x 9 mm in diameter, as the official show cage.

During the discussion, some countries stated that this cage could raise animal-welfare concerns because it is very small for keeping birds for several days.

This cage is already designated as the official cage in the OMJ Standard. However, where its use is impossible (in countries that consider the cage too small) or where these cages are not locally available, type B cages (Colour Canary cages) may be used.

Accordingly, this proposal was not put to a vote.

4) **Fife Fancy Proposals**

a. **United Kingdom Proposal - Amendment of the Standard**

Proposal to amend the Standard in order to give greater importance to the Size (maximum 11 cm). The United Kingdom therefore proposes increasing the points for Size to 25 (currently 20 points) and reducing the points for Colour to 5 (currently 10 points), while retaining the wording of both sections.

During the discussion, all countries agreed to accept the amendment to the Standard proposed by the breed's country of origin.

Voting – 14 votes in favour (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Malta, Türkiye e Belgium)

>> Proposal Approved Unanimously

Final Decision

Amendment of the Fife Fancy Breed Standard: "Increase the Size section by 5 points >> 25 points (making it the most important section) and reduce the Colour section by 5 points >> 5 points; retain the wording of both sections."

b. **United Kingdom Proposal - New technical drawings for the Standards**

Proposal to adopt new technical drawings that more faithfully portray the desired model of the Fife Fancy.

During the discussion, the general view of the countries was to accept the proposed change to the technical drawings, although Spain considered that they have some shortcomings in relation to the desired model of perfection.

Voting – 11 votes in favour (Portugal, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Argentina, Uruguay, Malta, Türkiye e Belgium) and 3 votes against (Spain, France e Brazil)

>> Proposal Approved

Final Decision

Adopt new technical drawings for the Fife Fancy breed.

c. **Belgium Proposal - Photographs of excellent-quality birds for the OMJ Standards**
Proposal to include photographs in the OMJ Standards showing higher-quality Fife Fancy birds.

The general view of the countries and the OMJ officer was that efforts should be made to include photographs of higher-quality birds. It was recalled that this matter had been discussed in 2014 and that member countries have repeatedly been asked to submit good photographs so that the OMJ Standards can be continuously improved.

This proposal was not put to a vote.

5) **German Crested Proposals**

a. **Germany Proposal - Request for clarification concerning (stams) of lipochrome birds (birds with differently coloured crests)**

Germany requested clarification of the criteria for the stams of lipochrome German Crested canaries, on the basis that the latest version of the OMJ Standards states that all birds in a team must be identical, while also specifying that individual lipochrome German Crested canaries may have lipochrome, melanin or grizzled crests.

During the discussion, OMJ presented the following alternative proposal to clarify the criteria for stams of German Crested canaries:

"Stams of lipochrome German Crested canaries must consist of birds that are identical with regard to crest colour, as well as ground colour and plumage category."

All countries agreed to vote on the OMJ clarification proposal.

Voting – 13 votes in favour (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Malta, Türkiye e Belgium) and 1 vote against (Germany)

>> Proposal Approved

Final Decision

Retain the general definition that all birds in a stam must be identical, while clarifying that, in stams of lipochrome German Crested canaries, the crest colour must be identical.

b. Italy Proposal - Standard Amendment

Italy proposed amending the German Crested Standard, namely by reducing the points for Condition to 5 and creating a separate Size section worth 5 points by subdividing the Type and Size section.

During the discussion, the general view of the countries was not to accept the proposed amendment, since Germany (the country responsible for the breed) stated that it had been contacted beforehand about the proposal and had informed Italy that it did not agree to amend the Standard at this stage.

Voting – 9 votes against (Portugal, France, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Argentina, Malta, Türkiye) e 4 votes in favour (Italy, Spain, Belgium, Brazil)

Note – Uruguay did not vote (no Zoom connection)

>> Proposal Rejected

Final Decision

Keep the German Crested Standard unchanged.

6) Border Standard Amendment - Italy Proposal

Italy proposed amending the Border Standard, namely by increasing Position and Movement to 20 points, increasing Plumage to 15 points, and reducing Colour to 10 points and Condition and Health to 5 points.

The United Kingdom representative stated that Italy had not maintained contact with the Border Convention UK in order to seek consensus regarding amendments to the Border Standard.

During the discussion, the general view of the countries was not to accept the proposed amendment to the Standard.

Voting – 10 votes against (Portugal, France, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Türkiye e Belgium) and 2 votes in favour (Spain e Italy)

Note – Uruguay did not vote; Malta did not vote (no Zoom connection)

>> Proposal Rejected

Final Decision

Keep the Border Standard unchanged.

7) Norwich Standard Amendment - Italy Proposal

Italy proposed amending the Norwich Standard, namely by increasing Head to 15 points and reducing Plumage to 15 points.

During the discussion, the general view of the countries was not to accept the proposed amendment to the Standard.

Voting – 10 votes against (Portugal, France, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Türkiye e Belgium) and 2 votes in favour (Spain e Italy)

Note – Uruguay did not vote; Malta did not vote (no Zoom connection)

>> Proposal Rejected

Final Decision

Keep the Norwich Standard unchanged.

8) Salentino Standard Amendment- Italy Proposal

Italy proposed amending the Salentino Standard, namely by increasing Size to 25 points and reducing Position to 20 points.

During the discussion, the general view of the countries was to accept the amendment to the Standard proposed by the breed's country of origin.

Voting – 10 votes in favour (Portugal, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina e Türkiye) and 2 votes against (Spain e Belgium)

Note – Uruguay did not vote; Malta did not vote (no Zoom connection)

>> Proposal Accepted

Final Decision

Salentino standard Amendment: "Increase the Size 5 points >> 25 points (making it the most important section) and reduce the Position 5 points >> 20 points; retaining the wording of both."

9) Scotch Fancy Standard Amendment - Italy Proposal

Italy proposed amending the Scotch Fancy Standard, namely by increasing Head and Neck to 20 points, reducing Condition to 5 points (removing Plumage), and incorporating Plumage into the "Shape and Plumage" while retaining its 20-point value.

During the discussion, the general view of the countries was not to accept the proposed amendment to the Standard.

Voting – 10 votes against (Portugal, France, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Türkiye e Belgium) and 2 votes in favour (Spain e Italy)

Note – Uruguay did not vote; Malta did not vote (no Zoom connection)

>> Proposal Rejected

Final Decision

Keep the Scotch Fancy Standard unchanged.

10) Yorkshire Standard Amendment - Italy Proposal

Italy proposed amending the Yorkshire Standard, namely by increasing Body to 15 points, reducing Condition to 5 points (removing Colour), and incorporating Colour into the Plumage while retaining its 25-point value.

During the discussion, the general view of the countries was not to accept the proposed amendment to the Standard.

Voting – 10 votes against (Portugal, France, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Türkiye e Belgium) and 2 votes in favour (Spain e Italy)

Note – Uruguay did not vote; Malta did not vote (no Zoom connection)

>> Proposal Rejected

Final Decision

Keep the Yorkshire Standard unchanged.

11) Spanish Giboso Standard Amendment - Spain Proposal

Spain proposed amending the Spanish Giboso Standard as follows: separate 20-point Head and Neck into two, Neck with value of 20 points and Head with 5 points, retaining the wording and thereby increasing the overall importance of these breed characteristics; rename Position and Type as Position, retaining the points and removing the wording relating to Type; rename Legs and Thighs as Legs, retaining the points and wording; rename Jabot and Abdomen as Jabot, retaining the points and wording; and delete the Plumage with the 5 points.

During the discussion, all countries agreed to accept the amendment to the Standard proposed by the breed's country of origin.

Voting – 12 votes in favour (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Türkiye e Belgium)

Note – Uruguay did not vote; Malta did not vote (no Zoom connection)

>> Proposal Accepted Unanimously

Final Decision

Spanish Giboso Standard Amendment: "Separate Head and Neck into two, Neck with value of 20 points and Head with 5 points, retaining the description; rename Position and Type as Position, retaining the points and removing the wording relating to Type; rename Legs and Thighs as Legs, retaining the points and description; rename Jabot and Abdomen as Jabot, retaining the points and description; delete the 5-point Plumage section."

12) Proposal to amend perch/show-cage specifications for the Portuguese Harlequin - Spain Proposal

Spain proposed changing the position of the perches in Portuguese Harlequin show cages by lowering them so that the birds have more space and can show their full potential. The perches should be no higher than one third of the cage height, preferably at a height of 8 cm, and this should be stated in the OMJ Standards in the specification for type B show cages (Colour Canaries).

During the discussion, it was stated that in Portugal and other countries, due to the size increase of the Portuguese Harlequin, lowering the perches is already common practice so that the birds can adopt their correct position and show their full potential. All countries agreed to accept the proposal to include a reference to perch height and spacing in the show-cage specification.

Voting – 12 votes in favour (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Türkiye e Belgium)

Note – Uruguay did not vote; Malta did not vote (no Zoom connection)

>> Proposal Accepted Unanimously

Final Decision

Include the maximum perch height and the distance between perches in the type B show-cage specification (Colour Canaries) in the OMJ Standard for the Portuguese Harlequin.

13) Proposal for the new Maringá breed - Brazil

The new breed proposed by Brazil is called Maringá, after the area where the mutation arose and where the first specimens were selected. According to the proposing country, it is distinct from all other breeds, its most distinctive characteristic being the presence of feathers on the legs. This phenotypic trait is known as ptilopody and, although unprecedented in canary breeding, derives from a genetic mutation already known in pigeons and chickens, which can also have feathered legs.

The first canary to display feathering on the legs (ptilopody) was a red-factor Colour Canary that appeared in 2012 in the city of Maringá, Paraná State, Brazil.

Fixing this principal characteristic through selection in frilled canaries gave rise to a new frilled breed with well-feathered tarsi-metatarsi, the three principal frills (mantle, jabot and fins) and smooth plumage outside the frilled areas, in crested and plainhead varieties, approximately 17 cm in size, held at 65 degrees on the perch, and capable of being exhibited in all colours, including with red pigmentation.

The Maringá breed is currently undergoing the homologation process in Brazil, which began in 2024.

During the discussion, the countries agreed that, as a breed possessing the phenotypic characteristic of ptilopody, it differs from all existing type and posture canary breeds.

It was also asked whether fitting the usual leg rings could damage the ptilopodial feathers and cause discomfort to the bird. Brazil clarified that 3.4 mm rings are used to reduce discomfort, although some feathers may be damaged on the ringed leg. Some countries with strict restrictions on the exhibition of certain breeds, such as Germany and Belgium, expressed reservations regarding animal-welfare rules that could be called into question by this new breed.

Portugal also stated that this breed may be particularly interesting for relevant genetic studies because it derives from the same mutation in genes regulating limb expression (causing leg structures to express wing-like characteristics) that occurs in breeds of chickens and pigeons.

Voting – 9 votes in favour (Portugal, France, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Brazil, Argentina, Türkiye and Belgium) and 3 votes against (Spain, Germany, Italy)

Note – Uruguay did not vote; Malta did not vote (no Zoom connection)

>> Proposal Approved

Final Decision

Accept the new Maringá breed so that it may begin the COM/OMJ evaluation and study process leading to homologation.

14) **Proposal on rules for updating OMJ/COM Standards - Brazil Proposal**

Brazil's proposal aims to make official updates to OMJ/COM Standards more objective and traceable by including the dates and places of breed approvals, as well as all approved amendments to breed standards.

Proposed wording: Breed: ##; Year of approval: ##; Place: ##

Standard amended: ##; Year: ##; Place: ##

During the discussion, all countries agreed that there should be a standardised rule for recording updates to OMJ/COM Standards, covering all approved amendments to breed standards.

Voting – 12 votes in favour (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Lebanon, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Türkiye and Belgium)

Note – Uruguay did not vote; Malta did not vote (no Zoom connection)

>> Proposal Accepted Unanimously

Final Decision

Include objective, standardised information in OMJ/COM Standards so that the full evolution of the standards of the various breeds can be traced.

15) **Amendment of London Fancy classes (two-year-old adults) - Belgium Proposal (already discussed in 2024)**

Proposal not to accept two-year-old London Fancy birds in the current classes in which one- and two-year-old birds are eligible for competition.

This proposal had already been discussed and rejected at the 2024 experts' meeting in Vila da Feira and therefore cannot be resubmitted after only 2 years.

This proposal was not put to a vote.

Final Decision

Keep the London Fancy classes in accordance with the 2024 Approval Decision.

Technical discussion of relevant topics

1) **Cinnamon/Brown London Fancy - Clarification/confirmation of eligibility for competition**

Following the homologation of the London Fancy by OMJ/COM, some doubts arose which led, in certain countries such as Spain, to cinnamon/brown London Fancy canaries being regarded as not eligible for competition or not judgeable.

OMJ responsible Jorge Quintas clarified that, under the London Fancy canary Standard, cinnamon London Fancy birds are eligible for competition because the Standard states that the flight feathers, tail feathers, legs and feet must be "as dark as possible". Following the study period and breed evaluation process, during which Cinnamon specimens were also judged, OMJ/COM homologated the London Fancy in the various ground colours presented by the breed's proposing country, without any reservation concerning the Cinnamon/Brown variety.

It was therefore clarified that Cinnamon London Fancy birds are eligible for competition at OMJ/COM international shows and World Championships.

2) **Improvement of photographs in OMJ Standards**

Several countries, particularly Belgium, again stated that the photographs illustrating the Type and Posture Canary Standards are sometimes inadequate and should be improved. The OMJ responsible stated that OMJ has asked the relevant representatives in the various countries to submit good-quality photographs of birds capable of representing the standards of the various breeds more accurately. Efforts will continue to compile and include better-quality photographs in future editions of the Standards.

Sevilha, 8 August 2026

Jorge Quintas

OMJ Section E Responsible

Ordre Mondial des Juges : Président : João LIBERADO : Email : liberado.expert.juge@gmail.com
Ordre Mondial des Juges : Secrétaire : Jorge QUINTAS : Email : jorgequintas70@hotmail.com
Confédération Ornithologique Mondiale : Président Général : Carlos Fernando RAMÔA : Email : vilardemouros@hotmail.com