



Christmas Newsletter 2021

Thanks to the commitment of our friends and members from Austria (namely the President of the ÖDaC Margot Nemecek and our long-time secretary and "good soul" Ursula Voitle) we were able to hold our WAFDAL meeting including the WAFDAL show in June with almost no restrictions.

Dear WAFDAL members, dear Dalmatian lovers,

An eventful year is drawing to a close. As in the previous year, our everyday life was shaped by the corona pandemic. Many of us have suffered personal limitations and losses, many shows have been canceled, and some breeding plans have had to be changed or postponed.



[A realignment of WAFDAL was decided in a nice and constructive atmosphere:](#) our association and board were restructured and made leaner, the commissions were abolished. [From now on, both private individuals and breed clubs from all over the world can become members; namely members from non-FCI countries are invited!](#)



The preservation of our breed can only work through international cooperation. This makes a global association like WAFDAL more and more important. In the future, we want to focus on topics related to breeding and, above all, the health of our breed. And of course we cannot do all work alone, we need your active support. We are grateful for any feedback, as well as for active support.



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A first health project has already started. In some countries, the issue of dilated cardiomyopathy has flared up (again) over the past two years. DCM is widespread in some breeds and is also described in isolated cases in the Dalmatian. However, there is largely a lack of basic knowledge, we neither know about the actual frequency, nor about the causes (e.g. influence of diet or taurine) or genetic components. Even a reliable diagnosis is difficult and, above all, not standardized. Scientific projects on DCM in dalmatians have already been started in some countries. We at WAFDAL see it as our task to bring together the national projects and their findings and make them available to our members.

The next WAFDAL conference will take place in Holland in 2023, there we will also address the topic of DCM in a suitable form. In addition to the members' meeting, there will also be a scientific symposium, and of course there will again be a large WAFDAL exhibition with reputable judges.

The newly elected board started its work immediately after the elections and holds a monthly online meeting. The reorganization of WAFDAL has not yet been completed, we are still looking for support, especially for projects in the social media and public relations areas.



*Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year*

I would like to invite everyone to actively support us to the best of their ability, and join WAFDAL.

The entire board wishes you peaceful and harmonious Christmas holidays and a wonderful start into a positive and Happy New Year.

