

Minutes

Virtual Meeting of ICAR Dog Handlers, Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 19.00 – 21.0, CEST

Present: Twenty-two delegates attended the meeting

Lead: Marcel Meier, President of the Dog Handlers Sub Commission

Marcel welcomes the delegates to the virtual meeting

Agenda

1. What has happened since Jackson Hole conference

1.1. Board meetings

Over the course of five meetings, routine business and specific agenda items were addressed.

1.2. Technical meetings

The key agenda items were discussed during three meetings.

It is worth noting that intensive preparations for the congress have begun. During two meetings, possible procedures were discussed with the organizer from Innsbruck.

1.3. Statistic

Knut Skar, as the leader of the data collection effort, explains to those present what data he expects from each member.

Humberto Hinestrosa outlines an alternative method for collecting the individual data.

Knut will draft a proposal (form) for data collection and send it to all members of the dog commission.

Ion Sanduloiu suggests we communicate via WhatsApp. We'll look into that option.

2. Conclusions Regarding Accidents and Emergency Response Operations in the Winter of 2025/2026

Some participants reported on some very interesting missions.

Fortunately, several people buried in avalanches were rescued alive thanks to the dog. The reporters will send Knut an email about the missions.

3. Workshop from June 3 to 7, 2026 in Czech Republic

3.1. Overview participants

The workshop is currently being organized.
Twenty-two dog handlers from nine countries, plus the dog handlers from the Czech Republic will be participating.

3.2. Overview general

Jan Hepnar will announce the details on behalf of the organizing committee.
The entry fee is 250.00 euros per handler.
The program will be posted on our website shortly.

4. Member Spring Meeting 29.04.2026 CEST 20.00

4.1. Preparation

Our chairman, Gebhard Barbisch, will chair the spring meeting

4.2. Agenda

The agenda and invitation are available on our website. Anyone with access can attend the meeting.

I will report on our work since Jackson Hole.

5. Upcoming Congresses

5.1. Innsbruck

Site visit, May 22th 2026

The conference in Innsbruck is all about preparation. Specifically, the Technical Committee will be preparing the hands-on session and the presentations from Thursday through Saturday.

Important: Given the many tasks at hand, I ask that you prepare presentations for the conference.

5.2. Romania

Ion Sanduloiu, introduce us to the venue. We're in for a very exciting experience.

6. Various

Survey pieps devis for the avalanche dogs.
At the end of May, I'll be in touch with Pieps to discuss the next steps.

The drafting of recommendations was also discussed.
This includes, for example, standardizing the dog's digging on the avalanche. We will further develop this point at the conference in Innsbruck.

7. Future Meetings

7.1. Virtual meeting

The next meeting will take place virtually on September 1, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. CEST.

The meeting ends at 9:00 p.m.

The president thanks everyone for their active participation and wishes everyone a pleasant evening.

Einsiedeln, April 29th, 2026 meier marcel

