

# JOEL CORDEIRO



The GFCC is proud to have Joel Cordeiro as one of its youngest Councillors, a passionate and dedicated breeder whose journey with Glosters reflects both perseverance and deep love for the fancy.

Joel hails from Porto, Portugal, and lives in the nearby city of Ermesinde. Now aged 43, his story with birds began at a very young age, inspired largely by the influence of his brother Cláudio and his mother Alice. What started as a childhood fascination soon developed into what Joel fondly describes as an “addiction to feathers.”

Like many breeders, Joel’s early experiences were not without challenges. His first attempt at breeding canaries, undertaken when he was still very young and inexperienced, did not bring the desired success. Disheartened, he stepped away from bird breeding for a period. However, the passion never truly left him. A few years later, he returned to the hobby, this time working with exotic species, particularly Gouldian Finches.

A defining moment came in 2005 during a summer holiday in Vieira de Leiria. Joel recalls vividly dreaming about Glosters and breeding

them. On returning home, he made a decisive move—selling all his exotic birds to fully commit to the Gloster Fancy. It was, in his own words, “the best decision I could have made.”

From the beginning, Joel benefited from the support and guidance of experienced Portuguese breeders, to whom he remains deeply grateful. He pays special tribute to Augusto Teixeira for his honesty, generosity, and mentorship during those formative years.

Keen to expand his knowledge, Joel began travelling in 2009 to Belgium and the Netherlands, visits he has continued whenever possible. These trips proved invaluable, offering not only access to top-quality birds but, more importantly, the opportunity to learn directly from some of Europe’s most respected breeders. Attending major shows such as the IGBA in England and the renowned Twentse Gloster Show further enriched his experience and broadened his perspective.

In 2013, Joel reached another milestone when he was invited by Rene Alssema to judge at a major show in Veenendaal, featuring around 1,300 Glosters. Sharing the judging bench with such esteemed company was both an honour and a turning point. The following year, he joined the IGBA Judges panel, opening the door to an international judging career.

Since then, Joel has judged in numerous countries including Portugal, the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium, England, Turkey, Malta, Italy, Israel, and Mexico—an impressive testament to his reputation and expertise.

Joel’s enthusiasm for the Fancy remains as strong as ever, and his appointment to the GFCC is both well-deserved and warmly welcomed. His knowledge, experience, and commitment will undoubtedly contribute to the continued growth and success of the Gloster community.

We are so proud to have him on board and we are positive that he is going to contribute greatly to the GFCCI.

# The Return of the GFCCI Handbook: Back on Track.....



The GFCCI Handbook was once a highly anticipated annual publication, first launched in 2015. Each edition provided valuable insight and guidance, quickly becoming an important reference for Gloster enthusiasts. However, the final issue was published in 2019, after which the series came to an abrupt halt.

This pause was not without reason. During that period, increasing concerns began to surface regarding the direction of judging on the show bench. The Gloster standard was, in many cases, being openly disregarded. "Panel judges" were selecting birds that strayed significantly from type—exhibits with oversized bodies, coarse feathering, and heads more reminiscent of Norwich canaries than true Glosters.

Tensions within the council intensified, but the Council remained firm and in control when during the AGM a revision of the pictorial model was issued. Effort to regain control of the situation that was rapidly slipping away with disagreements persisting, and confidence in consistency and direction was clearly under strain. This raised more concern but in the end most of the judging results started to look more and more loyal towards the newly launched standard.

Fortunately, much has changed in the years since. A return to common sense has prevailed, and many of those earlier issues—especially the trend toward so-called "Big Glosters" have been addressed. Today, we see a far more balanced and refined

interpretation of the breed, with standards once again being respected and upheld.

That said, challenges such as those surrounding the Judges Panel continued to dominate discussions at successive GFCCI AGMs, highlighting the need for ongoing vigilance and unity.

With that in mind, it is time to look forward. After a seven-year absence, the GFCCI Handbook

is set to return with its 6th edition, to be published following the 2026 AGM.

This relaunch marks an exciting new chapter. The handbook will be available in both print and digital formats, ensuring it reaches a wider audience and continues to serve as a valuable resource for breeders, exhibitors, and enthusiasts alike.

Let bygones be bygones... the future of the Gloster is firmly back on track.

## We now have 7 new councillors From 7 different countries nominated... its happening :)

The GFCCI is proud to announce a significant and exciting development for the future of the Gloster Fancy. Seven new Councillors have been nominated to join the Council, each representing a different country.

This marks a major step forward in the continued evolution of the GFCCI as a truly international body. The inclusion of these new voices reflects the growing global strength of the Gloster Fancy and reinforces our commitment to unity, collaboration, and shared standards across borders.

Each nominee brings with them valuable experience, fresh perspective, and a deep passion for the breed. Their involvement will not only strengthen the Council but also help ensure that decisions are more

representative of the wider Fancy as it stands today.

This expansion has not happened overnight. It is the result of ongoing discussions, careful consideration, and a clear vision for the future. The aim is simple—to build a stronger, more inclusive Council that is better equipped to support breeders, exhibitors, and judges worldwide.

It's happening.

The GFCCI is moving forward with purpose, embracing progress while remaining firmly grounded in the principles that define the Gloster.

More details on the new Councillors will be shared in due course

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