

AGSS Board Meeting #3 - Review Docs for adding to the AGSS Website - April 25, 2023

Roll Call:

President - Jeff Ahlseen: Present

Vice President - Heidi Quist: Present

Treasurer Rachel Green: Present

Secretary Debra Drake: Present

Eastern Director - Laura Chandler -Present

Central Director Nancy Bentley: Present

Western Director - Terrisue Harvey: Present

Canadian Director Jenn Bowes: Absent

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Update from the Treasurer
4. Update from the Secretary
5. Seven website documents for review and comment
6. Review of the Certificate of Service, and
7. Embryo Transfer of Ownership forms as adapted from the Valais sheep group.

The President opened the meeting with roll call at 8:14 PM ET; a quorum was present. Casual conversation was had until the meeting was called to order.

The Treasurer presented the financial statements as of 4.25.23.

Motion: Heidi made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report, Laura seconded, the motion carried..

The Secretary reviewed membership renewal rate, noted that the updated by-laws had been posted to the AGSS website and started a discussion of Chris Dehne membership and unethical business practices.

1. The Treasurer will confirm that Little Woods Farm, owner Chris (Mary) Dehne, did not pay dues in 2022 and yet registered sheep sired by ram Anders (ear tag VA00148-21.11; AGSS Ram #3820).
2. The Secretary will provide the email chain outlining the unethical practices regarding ram purchases and pretexts.
3. Once it is confirmed she was not a member in 2022, the President will draft a document outlining the concerns discussed, in collaboration with the Western Director, and note that Little Woods Farm membership will be placed on hold and will not move forward until resolved. Subsequent steps will unfold.

Review of Draft Documents to be posted to the AGSS website:

1. Discussion of Document “Rules of Registration” -

- Canadian breeders are allowed to use natural breeding that results in no less than 43% progeny and only Canadian born females may be recorded in this manner. This will be allowed for animals born by December 31, 2016. - to review and discussed among the Board & with Canadian Director, Jenn Bowers
- Percentage of Gotland DNA in Canadian Gotlands descended from foundation ewes sired by AGSS rams R1178 and R1168 will be calculated based on actual percentage Gotland in these foundation ewes, and not adjusted to zero. These calculations are in response to registry errors caused by *Accu Register* and discovered in October 2017; this amendment allows these animals and their progeny to be recorded or registered as applicable and to retain the percent Gotland they held in the registry prior to the error being reported. - to review and discussed among the Board & with Canadian Director, JJenn Bowers
 - Foundation Ewes - Valais should not be added to the list as foundation per Heidi, Rachel, Jeff, Laura.
 - Jeff suggests in Canada, since Females are in short supply, (due to the prolific virus requiring herd eradication) to continue having the foundation ewes in the Canadian By-Laws (should this remain for the USA going fwd?).

2. Recording Guidelines - delete the following para:

- a. Less than 50% ewes but not less than 25% ewes may be grandfathered into the records provided they are born before 7/1/09 and recorded before 7/1/10. Their offspring may be recorded as long as they are a higher percentage than the dam and are recorded before 7/1/2012. After that date all animals recorded with the association must be 50% or higher. And adjust in the current AGSS by-laws accordingly

3. Dual Registration - good - passes as is.

4. Registering AI Rams - Recommend DNA testing to the sheep based in NZ to verify the parentage are NZSB one generation back for establishing the base (as of a given point in time going forward). (considered a best practice)

5. Registering Embryo Transfer - Recommend DNA testing to the sheep based in New Zealand to verify the parentage are New Zealand Sheep Breeders Association (NZSB) one generation back for establishing the base (as of a given point in time going forward). (considered a best practice)

Missed paragraph from by-laws:

Any NZ genetics appearing on the pedigree MUST be registered in the NZSB. Registry and must descend ONLY from genetics imported to NZ from registered 100% Gotland sheep of European origin (Sweden, UK, Denmark, etc.). No NZ Appendix flock genetics are allowed on the 4-generation pedigree.

6. **Certificate of Service** - change logo, VBSS# = add Ear Tag to both ewe and ram and AGSS#

7. **Embryo Ownership Transfer Form** - need to keep track of every future transaction going forward - a living document, coupled with all supporting paperwork, and prove that it is in your possession and paid for. Consider adding more *AGSS Transfer* items including Date of Sale and sold to on the backside of this doc - see current AGSS

Creating a sense of Community

- Debra Drake will draft an email regarding MDS&W Festival (Last weekend in May)
- Heidi will do the same for her upcoming festival
- Christina & Jeff will provide a warm & fuzzy on the Gotland Fleece Show - Rhinebeck, NY in October 2023

Questions - no questions were put forward

Adjourn - Motion: Laura made the motions to adjourn, Nancy seconded it, and Jeff closed the meeting at 11:14 PM ET.