

North American Wensleydale Sheep Assoc

Annual Meeting

Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival
Howard County Fairgrounds
Maryland

Saturday, May 7, 2005

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Minutes of June 24, 2004
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Secretary's Report
5. New Business
 - A. Establish a consistent date for annual election of directors.
 - B. Discussion regarding the date a transfer takes effect – date signed on the transfer or date paid and recorded in the registry.
 - C. Discussion of show fitting standards.
 - D. Policy on advertising and financial requests for shows and sponsorships
 - E. Need for Codon certificates for rams if both parents are RR.
6. Unfinished Business
7. Location for 2006 annual meeting
8. Adjourn

UNAPPROVED

**Minutes of the Membership Meeting
of the
North American Wensleydale Sheep Association**

May 7, 2005

Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival
Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD

President Barbara Burrows called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Present at the meeting: Kay Kratz, Rick Prestbye, Andrea Szabo, Myrtle Dow, Barbara Burrows, Sherry Carlson, Martin Dally, Joanie Livermore.

Guests present: Randy & Jamie Lock, Susan Hanks

Approve Minutes

Rick Prestbye made a motion to approve the minutes of June 25, 2004 as written, Myrtle Dow seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Sandi Hanson was unable to attend but sent a report listing last year's expenses, this year's total to date and 2005 budget amount. Income for 2004 was comprised of membership dues and animal recordings \$820. Expenses for that period totaled \$703.70 for a net income of \$116.30. Treasury balance at the end of 2004 was \$1,076.20. Year to date income and expenses are within the 2005 budget amounts and the current balance of the account is \$1,298.50 with a projected year-end balance of \$1,106.70. Martin Dally asked for clarification on the expenses for registrations and transfers and it was explained that we collect \$5 for each transaction and pay \$2.85 to the registrar for processing each registration or transfer.

Secretary's Report

Sherry Carlson said that we currently have 15 active members and two associate members but that she expects a few more members to renew when they send in their animal registrations soon. Because of the previous limited availability of semen, there were not many animal registrations for 2004, so we will publish a 2-yr flock book at the end of 2005. The first flock book of 2001 was printed and the 2002-2003 flock book is available for print out from our website.

Codon Testing Update

Joanie Livermore asked if codon testing was necessary on a ram lamb if the status of the sire and dam have previously been determined. Martin explained that that there may be cross fostering which could cause problems if the breeder assumed all lambs were being raised by their true dams. He felt that this could be a touchy subject and for the liability status of the seller, he felt that all ram lambs should be tested. Rick Prestbye added that testing is also a good way to verify the accuracy of the lab results on the parent animals. Kay Kratz made a motion to continue testing all rams for codon 171 status whether or not the status of the parents is known. Martin Dally seconded the motion, approved.

Consistent Date for Annual Election

Sherry Carlson explained that originally, the Association had established that elections should take place a certain number of days prior to the annual meeting. However, our annual meetings

have been held anywhere from the month of May to the month of October, Sherry asked if the membership would consider setting a specific annual date for the election so that preliminary notification and balloting could be scheduled more appropriately. Rick Prestbye made a motion to amend the bylaws to specify the date of November 1 for the annual election of director's positions. Notifications and other intervals should remain the same. Seconded by Kay Kratz, the motion carried.

Date of Registration Transfer

There has been a request for clarification by our Registrar regarding the date to be used when transferring the ownership of an animal. Currently, we are using the date that the secretary receives the request with payment. It is then submitted to the registrar to be changed in the database. Another option is to use the actual date of sale although the paperwork may not be submitted to the Association until a much later date. Susan Hanks pointed out that legally, the ownership is considered transferred on the date the animal actually changed hands.

Members were in agreement that we should all remember that it is the seller's responsibility to submit the completed transfer request and payment as soon as possible after an animal is sold, not simply give the registration papers to the buyer to transfer. Some concern was expressed that transactions could be backdated or otherwise wrongly reported if the buyer was allowed to submit the transfer.

Barbara made a motion that we should record both date of sale & the date of transfer in the database and on the registration papers. Rick Prestbye seconded the motion, approved.

Show Fitting Standards

Myrtle Dow said some other sheep associations have fitting standards and that maybe we should think about issuing our own guidelines. Martin commented that judges could benefit from fitting guidelines. Joanie Livermore said that if the U.K. association has some, we could possibly adopt theirs. It was pointed out that public acceptance and show ring results will ultimately dictate the grooming standards that are best for each breed and fleece type. Kay stated that animals are presented differently in different regions of the U.S. and to expect every breeder to present their animals according to our guidelines was not realistic. Martin reminded that we should also follow an individual fair/festival's guidelines. While extremely long wool is impressive if it can be presented in good condition, the reality is that in the U.K. there is only one class shown in long fleece, all other classes, adult and lambs are shown in shorter fleeces.

There was no action taken on this item.

Policy on Advertising and Financial Requests for Shows & Sponsorships

After examining the Association's modest budget, members agreed that there were not enough funds available for granting sponsorship or donation requests. It was felt that perhaps when the Association's treasury grows and there are more Wensleydales to promote, then we could discuss guidelines for donations. As far as promotion is concerned, Sherry explained that we try to keep at minimum an Association listing in four publications: Sheep! Magazine, The Shepherd, Black Sheep Newsletter, and The Marker.

2005 Membership Meeting Location

Myrtle Dow made a motion to hold the next meeting in June 2006 in Eugene Oregon at the Black Sheep Gathering. Andrea Szabo seconded the motion, carried.

Meeting adjourned 6:10pm

Minutes submitted by Sherry Carlson, Secretary