



Dorper Sheep Society of Australia Inc.

ABRI, UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND ARMIDALE NSW 2351 AUSTRALIA

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BULLETIN 07/11/16

Summary of Board Meeting held in Sydney on 26-27 October 2016

Financial Summary

Motion carried to confirm acceptance of the 2015/2016 Audited Financial Reports. The Treasurer gave an overview of the financial year to date outlining membership has increased, registrations are down to the lowest level in five years and suggested this may be partly due to exports. The Treasurer's position will now be held by Bruno Trazzerra.

Board Portfolios

President	Jamie McTaggart
Vice President	Rod Chalmers
Treasurer	Bruno Trazzerra
Show and Sale	Tim Stevenson, Terry Balla, Rod Chalmers, Annabel Mangal
Breed Development	Graeme Budd, Annabel Mangal, Peter Lynch, Adrian Veitch
Promotion and Marketing	Donna Emmerton, Jamie McTaggart, Bruno Trazzerra

2016 National Show and Sale

The National Show ran at a profit of approx. \$6,500 and the National Sale turned a profit of approx. \$10,500 in 2016. A huge thank you to our sponsors, exhibitors/vendors and all those volunteers who helped make these events a success. The Show & Sale Committee are working on changes to help address concerns at the National Sale such as lack of Type 5 sheep at the 'elite sale', improving organisation and flow of the events.

National Show Venues

- 2017 National Show is to be held at Bendigo in conjunction with the Australian Sheep and Wool Show. Bendigo has increased the breed exposure and Dorpers and White Dorpers are now the second largest breed at the ASWS.
- Motion carried that the 2018 National Show will be held in conjunction with the Toowoomba Royal Show on 11th - 13th April 2018. The Toowoomba Royal Show has low entry fees, is very easily accessed and will continue the breed exposure with 50,000 people attending per day. The Queensland Region will investigate holding a regional sale in conjunction with the National Show.
- The Board are examining the opportunity to hold the 2019 National Show in conjunction with the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

National Show Judges

Motion carried that competitors at the National Show continue to nominate and vote for the National Show Judge; however the same Judge can only judge once every three years. Nomination forms for the 2017 Judge will be distributed to 2015 and 2016 exhibitors this week – please contact the office if you do not receive.

Shearing Guidelines

The Inspectors group have recommended that sheep are shorn 4-6 weeks prior to show/sale and the compulsory regulations state the fibre must not be longer than 10mm.

2017 National Sale

- The 2017 National Sale will be held at the Dubbo Showgrounds on 5th - 6th September 2017.
- Motion carried for the 2017 National Sale that there will be two sections – typed and non-typed sale. Members will have the opportunity to enter sheep into the one section of their choice. All sheep will still be checked for jaw, testicals, body condition and soundness and will all be put through the ring the day before the sale for potential purchasers, including those using the livestreaming, to view. Those sheep entered into the typed sale will be the same as this year, they will be classed by 3 inspectors and must be a Type 3 or above to be allowed into the Sale. Sheep entered into the non-typed sale will enter the ring so that potential purchasers have the opportunity to view the sheep.
- A motion was also carried not to have scanning of eye muscle and fat conducted at the National Sale.

Education and Courses

A series of information days will be held in 2017. These will be half day events that anyone can attend and will include information such as MSA accreditation, Lambplan, fencing, nutrition, conformation and other issues relevant to the region. The Breed Development Portfolio are also trying to arrange a number of Dorper Junior and Senior Courses – if you are interested in attending or hosting a course, please contact Graeme Budd on 0479 034 456.

Nucleus Flock

MLA have confirmed a nucleus flock with Dorpers at Katanning WA commencing in 2017. MLA has agreed to fully fund the trial, a saving to the DSSA of approximately \$10,000. The Nucleus Flock will require diverse genetics with 500 ewes to be artificially inseminated and MLA will call for nominations for semen from rams with Lambplan figures.

Prime Dorper Lamb

An information pack has been developed outlining the benefits and license agreements to use the brand Prime Dorper Lamb. There has been a lot of interest from Producers and Co-Branders however we need more Processors to get involved. If you would like more information or know anyone that may be interested in getting involved please contact Donna Emmerton on 0419 787 114. Motion carried to authorise \$5,000 to be spent on the promotion of Prime Dorper Lamb.

Regional Funding Adjustment

At the start of the financial year each region's bank account is adjusted to a capped amount (calculated at \$50 per full financial member at the end of the previous financial year). If regions would like access to additional funds they should put an application to the Board including a brief budget outlining the distribution of funds. If regions receive sponsorship money for a particular event that crosses over financial years, please contact the office to discuss.

Appreciation Awards

To recognise and thank the people who tirelessly donate their time and efforts, the Board carried a motion to provide two awards annually – a Distinguished Service Award and a Future Breeders Award. The regions will nominate a member for each award who have gone above and beyond, the Board will vote on the finalists and the awards will be presented at the Federal AGM.

By-Laws and Constitution

In accordance with the Special Resolution passed at the Federal AGM, the Constitution has been updated. Motions were carried to correct the By-Laws at Items 1.4.2, 2.6.2, 2.6.3 and 3.4 to reflect current procedures.

Promotional Materials

To help promote the breed, the DSSA and Prime Dorper Lamb new promotional products are being arranged with a standardised format to ensure the flow through effects for brand awareness. Regions will have access to these promotional resources such as large signs, banners, flags for use at trade sites, expos, shows etc. **Regions should note that prior to finalising any print advertising it should be sent through to the DSSA office to ensure a consistent format is used.**

Aged Debtors

Please note that from 1st January 2017 anyone with an overdue balance over 90 days will have their account suspended until payment has been made. If you are experiencing financial difficulties please contact the office to discuss payment plans.

Typing on Database

- Motion carried that transaction fees to record typing in database will be absorbed by DSSA.
- Please note that breeders are to arrange and purchase their own inspection tags from the office (at the rate of \$2.20 each and postage is \$7.50 or \$11.00 for express post for up to 150 tags). Please keep in mind that postage can take 5-7 business days for regular post and 3 business days for express post to arrive.
- Sheep must be registered prior to having them typed. From 1st January 2017, if inspection certificates are received to the office with unregistered animals listed a fee of \$3.30 will be charged per unregistered sheep.

Inspectors

Please note that the list of Inspectors and the Inspectors Code of Conduct are available to view on DSSA website. If advertising typed sheep please ensure you also include the inspectors name and date classed.

Prime Dorper Lamb Funding

The Board are investigating funding opportunities for Prime Dorper Lamb. To goal is to have Prime Dorper Lamb distinguished from the rest, just as Angus has targeted the beef market, and make Dorper the 'lamb of choice'. In order to achieve this, it is anticipated that we need to obtain the services of a marketing and promotions professional to provide pertinent industry guidance and ensure solid foundations to build the brand.

Note from the office

- If you have any show results, nice photographs, or saw an article regarding Dorpers and White Dorpers etc please send them to the office so that we can publish them on our website and facebook page.
- Please note that ILROnline is replacing the i4 registrations portal and from 1st December 2016 the old platform will no longer be available. Please ensure you follow the link from the DSSA website to Dorper Online – if you have not used this system before you will need to REGISTER as your old log in details will not work. Please note that log in details for the new online system cannot be controlled by the Office.
- Reminder that it is the vendor's responsibility that a transfer should be lodged with the DSSA within 60 days of the sale of a registered sheep, even if sold to a non-member, to retain an accurate flock book.
- The DSSA will be running a photo competition again early next year – stay tuned for more details.