

SUMMARY OF THE TRUSTEES BOARD MEETING

HELD THURSDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2019 AT YEO VALLEY HQ, SOMERSET

FOR ISSUE TO CLUB SECRETARIES & HYB COORDINATORS

Present: -

Chairman: Michael Smale (MS)

Trustees: Aled Jones (AJ), David Yates (DY), Edward Griffiths (EG), Iwan Morgan (IM), Jane Targett (JT), Jane Whittaker (JW), John Hartley (JH), Matthew Winter MW), Sandy Pirie (SP), Stephen Brough (SB), Stephen Hill (SH), Wallace Gregg (WG)

In attendance: Sue Cope (SC), Melanie Harmitt (MH), Bryan Thomas (BT)

Apologies: Peter Prior (PP), David Jones (DJ)

Minute Taker: Hannah Williams (HW)

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

- 1.1 Michael Smale welcomed the room.
- 1.2 Apologies received from Peter Prior & David Jones.

2.0 ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS

- 2.1 Members for election were proposed.
- 2.2 John Hartley proposed, Matthew Winter seconded and they were accepted by the board.

3.0 COMMITTEE UPDATES

3.1 FINANCE

- 3.1.1 The board were advised that the cash position was still very positive
- 3.1.2 The board were advised that the Q3 management accounts for the group were currently running £405,000 better than budget against the forecast which was extremely positive. The Q3 management accounts were proposed by the committee and approved by the board.
- 3.1.3 The 2020 draft budget was discussed and the board agreed there should be no price increase at the present time. The committee proposed and the board approved the 2020 budget which shows a small profit across the group, despite Holstein UK showing a financial loss for the year.

3.2 OPERATIONS

- 3.2.1 The committee discussed the issue surrounding IT security in depth and were clear that everything possible was being done to make sure the societies systems were secure and protected. It was highlighted that any computer running Windows 7 would not receive any further security updates. All Holstein UK group computers are now running Windows 10.
- 3.2.2 The committee reported that following a very positive meeting with AHDB to investigate TB valuations it could be reported that the process of data collection is as thorough and complete as possible. It was reported that the valuations are worked on rolling market averages across the whole of the UK and were accurate to the data provided. It was also concluded that the coloured breed sale prices were not significant enough to affect the pricing averages.

3.3 SHOW & SALE

- 3.3.1 The committee proposed and the board agreed the following changes to the All Britain awards for 2019
 - The addition of 2 Red & White classes to give a total of 3 classes; Red & White Heifer (not in milk), Red & White Heifer in milk and Red & White Cow in milk
 - Only animals that are registered red will be eligible for the Red & White classesThe committee confirmed that they were looking at further changes to the age group bandings for 2020 to bring them more in line with the Holstein National Show and would bring the proposal to the February 2020 board meeting.
- 3.3.2 The committee proposed and the board agreed the inclusion of two new rules to the Holstein Showing rules with immediate effect
 - Shaving or cutting the hair on the ribs, using the very fine blades of the trimming machines or cutters, such that the ribs appear scratched or bald, is forbidden.

- During the show only the official Veterinarian on duty has the authority to decide whether an animal should be treated or not; if so, what the appropriate medicine is; and to administer the appropriate bovine medicine.

3.3.3 The committee proposed and the board agreed that the Holstein UK journal would allow requests for adverts advertising coloured breeds from Holstein UK members

3.3.4 The committee were pleased to report that UK Dairy Day 2019 was showing a profit of circa £1800

3.4 SCIENCE

3.4.1 The committee confirmed that work was being done on the Master Breeder awards to identify the desired qualities that should be rewarded and if the current system needed to be modified.

3.4.2 The committee reported that the two new TCS traits, Thurl and Loin were showing a strong correlation to the existing Rump angle trait but further research would be done on this.

3.4.3 The committee reported that further work had been done by Henry Richardson on the relationship between lifetime yields and TCS on the 2010 cohort. The committee reported that the work was showing a significant correlation with the difference between poor and VG classified animals earning potential being circa £4500.

3.4.4 The committee confirmed they would be looking at revising the Type Merit formula in 2020 to put more emphasis on Legs and potentially to reduce stature.

3.4.5 The committee reported that they had investigated the concern over the number of VG88 classified heifers but the percentage was actually only 0.1% of those classified.

4.0 SCOTSBRIDGE HOUSE UPDATE

4.1 The board were informed that the sale was still ongoing following the agreed timelines.

5.0 NEW HQ OPTIONS

5.1 The board were informed that new plans had been received for the proposed extension at Speir House giving room for current business and some future expansion.

5.2 Costing for the extension would be brought to the board meeting in February for the board's consideration.

6.0 REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES

6.1 The board approved the new double sided registration certificate which would conform with EU legislation.

7.0 WORLD HOLSTEIN FREISIAN FEDERATION CONFERENCE 2024

7.1 The board expressed their wish for Holstein UK to bid for the 2024 WHFF conference to take place in the UK.

7.2 The formal bid proposal will be taken to the WHFF conference in March 2020

7.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.1 The next Holstein UK Board Meeting will take place on Thursday 13th February 2020 at Speir House, Telford.