

SUMMARY OF THE TRUSTEES BOARD MEETINGS
FOR ISSUE TO CLUB SECRETARIES & HYB COORDINATORS

Chairman: Michael Smale (MS)

Trustees: Andrew Williamson, David Jones, David Yates, Edward Griffiths, Iwan Morgan, Jane Targett, Jane Whittaker, John Hartley, Matthew Winter, Peter Prior, Sandy Pirie, Stephen Hill, Wallace Gregg, William Williamson

In attendance: Stephen Brough, Aled Jones, Sue Cope, Melanie Harmitt

Minute Taker: Hannah Williams

INTRODUCTION

Due to the continuing situation with COVID-19 it has still not been possible for the Holstein UK Board to meet in person. The trustees however have been continuing to hold meetings via zoom on the following dates;

- 24th August 2020
- 14th September 2020
- 10th December 2020

Below is a summary of the business discussed within these meetings.

APOLOGIES

24/08/20 – Matthew Winter & Stephen Hill

14/09/20 – Aled Jones, Edward Griffiths, Stephen Brough and Stephen Hill

10/12/20 – Peter Prior

MEMBERS FOR ELECTION

Members for election were proposed to the board in December and the board approved the members for election.

NEW HQ OPTIONS

The board were informed that the contracts had now been exchanged on the new HQ property in Telford but the purchase would not be complete until spring 2021.

The board understood that plans were now being drawn up.

The board were informed that the office move would be done as soon as was possible following the purchase of the building but the laboratory would take much longer to relocate and would be subject to accreditation.

SBH UPDATE

The sale of Scotsbridge house continues to progress as expected

The board agreed to an extension of the options agreement requested due to COVID driven delays

COMMITTEE UPDATES

FINANCE

The board were advised that the cash position continued to be very positive.

The board were pleased to understand that the business continued to be in a strong position but were made aware that a considerable amount of cost had been saved due to the society not being able to attend or hold any events in 2020.

The board were made aware that all staff were now back working in the business and no staff were still on furlough.

The Investment portfolio continues to fluctuate and the board understood that this was to be expected.

OPERATIONS

The committee proposed and the board approved a change to the supplementary register by which animals can now be accepted as an ASR without needing to have a pedigree sire from the main section of the herd book, however animals would be subject to inspection.

The committee proposed and the board agreed two new awards for British Friesians; The Consistent Performer award and the British Friesian Herd of the year. Full details of these awards were published in the December edition of the journal

The committee proposed and the board agreed that the Star Brood Award would now be produced and run automatically for all members at no cost to the member. Certificates would not be produced but stars would be added to both the Pedigree Certificates and the Fact Sheets.

SHOW & SALE

The board agreed an extension of the age range for HYB competitions by 1 year for 2021.

The board were informed that the Events & Marketing team continued to provide online activities for members and were getting involved with online events such as AgriScot 2020 and Dairy-Tech in 2021.

The board were informed that the sponsorship of the Milk Your Moments Campaign had been positive and that the campaign had reported it had increased milk sales by 11 million litres during its promotion.

The board were informed that HUK, CIS & UKDD had promoted both the NFU consultation and the Dairy Charter through the social media channels.

The committee agreed that for 2021 there would be 5 journals produced in February, May, August, October and December

SCIENCE

The Science Committee review of the master breeder award is now completed and the board agreed the following structure for the award.

Summary of the main changes

- Females bred by the herd (rather than both bred and owned) to be included. Animals still need to have at least one completed lactation in the NBDC database to be included in the calculation.
- Only 87.5% Holsteins are eligible for inclusion in the calculation.
- Automated calculation to be used and run monthly with average score over 12-month period used to calculate MB herds. Members no longer need to apply.
- Top 10 herds to be awarded per year if they achieve a minimum score of 3.5 pts per animal.
- The LP category is replaced by a total number of lactations category.
- The approximate weighting of the categories in the calculation are changed to approximately 50% classification and 50% production (production includes new lactation number category). Previously the calculation had an approximately 70% production weighting. (approximate because the weightings are an average of the weightings calculated for each herd.
- Herds must receive a minimum of 20% of their points from classification.
- New scale for classification points of excellent cows introduced.

The board were informed that full details of the new criteria would be published on the website and printed in the February journal.

AOB

Michael Smale thanked Aled Jones and Stephen Brough for their agreement to stay on till the end of 2020 in an advisory capacity. The board thanked both for their hard work and dedication to the society over the past eight years and wished them well.