

MAY 2015 BOARD SUMMARY

REPORTING

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed RJ to his first Board Meeting.

Prior to the Board meeting Matthew McClure from ICBF gave a presentation to the Board on 'SNP GE type'.

Register of interests

- There were no amendments to the register. SF distributed the Declaration of Interest Forms.

Minutes of Trustees Meeting held on 25th & 26th February 2015

- These were agreed as a true reflection and signed.

Election of new members

- The election of new members were duly accepted.

Management Accounts

- Trustees were reminded that the accounts were still only draft. March 15 results were really encouraging showing a £276K profit, compared to a loss of £12K last year. Costs were behind budget. The company had made a profit even though Dairy Day cost the Society money, so this was very good. It was essential to grow advertising revenue for the journal. The company has a huge amount of data which proves being a pedigree herd is more beneficial in the long term; however there is the need to provide evidence to demonstrate this. The final accounts and annual report will be ready for approval by the Board at the August 2015 meeting.

Marketing, Shows/Events and Journal.

- A number of concerns were raised regarding the content and quality of the Journal and it was felt that the quality of the Journal had declined over the last year. Trustees were reminded that it was Holstein that owned the Journal and should be setting the editorial and not the contractors. RJ shared the Trustees concerns and confirmed that he was addressing this.

Membership Services

- 1700 registered by internet and 1500 by phone, so internet registrations were now rising.
- Help was needed on how to do webreg . It was impossible to web reg ET cows. To be followed up with IT.
- RJ advised that there was still some work needed to be done on the costs for foreign registrations. Members were waiting to register them at £5.
- Confirmed that Foreign was currently £17 and it was thought prices should be the same. RJ to ask Darren Todd and Henry Richardson to look at the costs. RJ felt it should be within £7.50 and £10.00.

Classification

- RJ was arranging to meet with all classifiers.
- He was also looking at classifying sheep and selling classification service to other companies. Discussions to take place on apprenticeships and developing the team.
- AB said there seemed to be some discrepancies in the number of times some herds are classified. It was confirmed twice a year, although could request a third visit at extra cost.
- RJ looking at providing fuel cards and for hotel bookings to be done internally to reduce costs and increase efficiency.

CIS

- Strong business growth. Made a £264K profit. Total for year prior to payment to Holstein was £479K profit.

CDI/R&D

- RJ confirmed he would attend his first CDI Board meeting on 13th May 2015 and would then arrange a meeting with Dairy Co.
- The Chairman felt it was extremely important that Holstein worked with Dairy Co.

IT

- Electronic invoices had been tested; there were a few bugs which had now been fixed.

Discussion – European Championship 2016

- Lynden Bustard as Assistant Team Manager was agreed and approved.
- Independent Foreign Judge – Trustees felt a foreign judge wasn't needed. Attendance needed to be controlled and only send those people who were essential. The Chairman and President were deemed as essential.

Information – UK Dairy Day 2015

- Trade stands were more than sold out, stand sizes had been cut down to allow more businesses to attend. Trade stand plan to be sent out first week of June. Looking to take re-bookings at the event this year. With regard to the Cattle show, the draft schedule and class structure would be similar to last year. Live streaming had been arranged at £350 per day and £350 for editing and would link straight onto the FB account and Holstein website. Barclays have done a two year deal for £24K. Ticket sales start 1st June.
- With regard to Security, ticketing would be done by a specialist company. Tickets would be available on line and at ticket desks. Wrist bands would be provided to all visitors and stewards placed on all doors to reduce people entering without paying.
- With regard to the sale, H&H were dealing with this and is open to all breeds.

Information – Ongoing HR Issues

Michael Parkinson was still on sick leave and signed off until 2nd week of June 2015.

AOB

- RM asked about DEFRA TB. RJ advised there was a meeting on 17th May and Henry Richardson would be attending.
- Life time achievement awards. Lynette would be sending information out to the Clubs shortly.
- AGM and re-election. The Chairman advised that this would be carried over to June 2016. Because of change of financial year it was decided not to hold Trustee elections at the AGM in October and understood that the current Board would continue until June 2016.
- European Judging School. SC said they were changing the rules and Suzanne Harding was following this up.
- JT asked whether we would revisit the whole scenario of whether we were going to reduce the overall number of Trustees. The Chairman said the members had advised that they did want the number reducing.