

Gazette 221 (2021)

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND



Annual Conference MINUTES

JAMES COOK HOTEL WELLINGTON

GAZETTE 221 (2021)

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RAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2021/2022

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MEMBERSHIP Maria Barta Mobile: 021 211 1111 Email: <u>bartahinkley@gmail.com</u>	FINANCIAL, AUDIT & RISK Malcolm McKerrow Mobile: 027 370 600 Email: mckerrow@xtra.co.nz						

2021/2022 Royal Agricultural Society Horse Stewards Council Chair & Convenors: Helena McLeod - Chair Ph: 022 019 8471

Judges	Position is currently vacant.
Steph Mann - Measuring	Ph: 027 910 3414
Maxine Mulligan – Clean Sport	Ph: 027 240 8504
2021/2022 Royal Agricultural Society Ben Burgess - Chair:	UBS COUNCIL: Ph: 027 540 4190
Ian Stevenson - Sheep Breeds:	Ph: (03) 319-8443
Mark Fleming - Beef Breeds:	Ph: 027 298 0731
Kelly Allison - Dairy Breeds:	Ph: 027 245 8613
Diane Chesmar - Equestrian Breeds:	Ph: 021 191 8997

CONFERENCE DAY 1

CHANCELLOR 1

Saturday 19 June 2021

9.00am – Welcome from RAS President, Brent Snellex.

9.15am – 10.30am A&P Case Studies

Maria Barta from Palmerston/Waihemo – for any enquiries contact <u>bartahinkley@gmail.com</u>

Murray Jagger from Whangarei A&P Society – for any enquiries contact chris@wap.org.nz

Neil McDonald from Stratford A&P - for any enquiries contact stratfordap@xtra.co.nz

10.40am – 12.30pm Business Review Progress

Steve Bramley from SGL Funding

Hon. Kate Wilkinson part of advisory group to RAS Executive

Murray Jagger part of advisory group to RAS Executive

Brent Snellex, RAS President

Rachel Walker, RAS Vice President

Malcolm McKerrow, RAS Executive (Treasurer)

1.15pm – 2.00pm Guest Speaker – Funding & Sponsorship

Steve Bramley from SGL Funding – for any enquiries contact enquiries@ras.org.nz

Throughout the day, Rural Ambassador Interviews – Executive Boardroom 1

2019 Rural Ambassador – Marie Fitzpatrick (Timperley)

2020 Rural Ambassador – not held due to COVID.

2021 finalists – Cara Doggett (Northern), Emma Pollitt (Eastern), Emma Owens (Central) and James Fox (Southern).

2021 Rural Ambassador – Emma Pollitt

CONFERENCE DAY 1

EQUESTRIAN BREEDS' DELEGATE MEETING

CHANCELLOR 1

Saturday 19 June 2021

Present: Heather Brake (Rotorua A&P), Debbie Cameron (RAS CEO), Diane Chesmar (RAS Central District), Wendy Collin (Eastern Chair), Simon Collin (Hawkes Bay A&P), Sharon Cook (Northern Chair), Leanne Cooke (Northern District), Louellen Davies (Mid Northern District), Mary Davis (Western District), Julie DeFilippi (NZ Standardbred), Christine Fowles (Marlborough A&P), Katrina Gosney (NZ Standardbred), Stephanie Gowing (Whangarei A&P), Rob Hall (Gore A&P), Sophie Hansen (Masterton A&P), Fe Howie (Upper Clutha A&P, Life Member), Melissa Jebson, RAS Executive/Malvern A&P), Jackie Kelly (Southern District, Life Member)), Trevor Latimer (Western District), Michelle Mair (Pony Breeders Society, Taranaki All Breeds Show), Stephani Mann (Incoming Measuring Convenor), Emmy Maxwell (NZ Gypsy Cob / Cheviot A&P), Helena McLeod (Egmont A&P/HSCE Chair), Bruce McRobbie (Mid Northern District, Morrinsville A&P), Maxine Mulligan (Clean Sport Convenor), Cara O'Connor (RAS Executive), Julie Pascoe (NZ Pinto), Christine Robert (RAS Administrator, Oxford A&P), Kristine Russell (Southern District), Sam Rutherford (Central District Chair/Marlborough A&P), Phillippa Sanders, Anne Scott (Auckland A&P), Geoff Smith (RAS President, Life Member), Mike Smith (Southland A&P, Life Member), Brent Snellex (RAS Vice President), Leigh Taylor (Te Kauwhata A&P, NZ Side Saddle), Lyn Tetenburg (Rotorua A&P), Diana Timms (Horowhenua AP&I), Jill Timms (Horowhenua AP&I), Ian Tippett (Southern District, Rachel Walker (RAS Executive), Anne Watts (Clevedon A&P), Alan Windle (NZ Riding Pony), Philip Worthington (Lowline Cattle).

Welcome from RAS Executive:	Cara O'Connor
1. Chairperson:	Helena McLeod
2. Secretary for the Meeting:	Debbie Cameron

- 3. Apologies none.
- 4. Minutes

Minutes of the Equestrian Breed Meeting held on 21 June 2019 – Gazette 218 (2019) pages 14 – 16.

Moved: The minutes of the 21 June 2019 were approved as a true and accurate record.

A Windle/L Taylor.

CARRIED

- 5. Matters arising from those minutes none.
- 6. Notice of any Item to be discussed under General Business, not on this Agenda none noted at the time.

7. Reports

Breed Society delegates have all been asked for a one-page written report to be tabled with the agendas – see pages 21-24.

- Clydesdale Horse Society -
- Connemara Pony Society of NZ Incorporated -
- Donkey & Mule Society of NZ not currently a financial member.
- Morgan Horse Association of NZ -

- National Miniature Horse Society of NZ
- NZ Arab Horse Breeders Society -
- NZ Golden Horse Society received.
- NZ Gypsy Cob Association received.
- NZ Hackney Society -
- NZ Miniature Horse Society -
- New Zealand Pinto Horse Society Incorporated -
- NZ Shetland Pony Breeders -
- NZ Standardbred Breeder's Association received
- Welsh Pony & Cob Society

Moved: All reports be received.

S Gowing/M Mair.

CARRIED

Noted by the Chair out of the 16 Breed/Kindred Societies only 5 reports were received.

8. Correspondence

Hi Debbie

Yes we would like to increase our inhand classes, by 2 extra classes, and where possible and if time and grounds are available to have a ridden section. This has been requested by our members.

We feel it is time that all horses and ponies competing in the New Zealand Golden Horse section are registered with the Society.

Our AGM is the 23rd of May. Do I then send a copy of our minutes and our proposal to be tabled at your AGM?

These are the classes we would like to propose (see under item 10) Thank you Wendy

9. Other Breed/Kindred related business – none raised.

10. Royal Show & Standard Schedule of Classes

As part of the Strategic Business Review all schedules will be reviewed

Golden Horse In Hand

All Exhibits must be registered with the New Zealand Golden Horse Society and show the registration number on Entry form. Unless stated all colours combined. No False tails allowed in any class.

- 1. Best Presented Horse & handler.
- 2. Best mane & tail. exhibits to be unplaited.
- 3. Best coloured Palomino & cremello
- 4. Best coloured Buckskin & Broken coloured
- 5. Best Foal or yearling. Any sex.
- 6. Best 2 year old. Any sex.
- 7. Best 3 year old. Any sex

Champion & Reserve Champion Youngstock Golden Horse or Pony

(To be judged from the winners of classes 5,6 and 7. Second place getters to standby).

8. Best Palomino 4 years & over

- 9. Best Buckskin 4 years & over
- 10. Best Cremello & broken coloured 4 years and over

Champion & Reserve Champion Adult Golden Horse or Pony

(To be judged from the winners of classes.8,9,10 Second place getters to standby).

Supreme Champion Golden Horse

To be judged from Champion Youngstock and Champion Adult

Golden Horse Ridden

Pony & Hack classes will be combined if not enough entries in either section.

- 11. Best Presented Horse & Rider- Hacks & Ponies combined
- 12. Novice 0-5 wins Pony
- 13. Novice 0-5 wins Hack
- 14. Open Pony
- 15. Open Hack

Champion & Reserve Champion Ridden Golden Horse or Pony

(To be judged from the winners of classes.,12.13,14 &15, Second place getters to standby)

- 16. Paced & mannered- Hack
- 17. Paced & mannered Pony
- 18. Best Rider 17 years and under
- 19. Best rider 18 years and over

Moved: Due to the review underway at present and no Royal Show this year it will be up to the individual A&P Shows as to whether they can incorporate this in their schedule. To be tabled for the Royal Show/Event Working Group. W Collin/D Chesmar.

A Windle noted on behalf of the NZ Riding Pony Society that it was very sad that there was no Royal Show. It is the pinnacle show for the Society and historic trophies are allocated to it.

S Collin, as President of the Hawkes Bay A&P Society(Royal Show host) advised the meeting due to the constraints and uncertainty that still surrounds COVID, the Hawkes Bay A&P Executive felt they could not commit to a Royal Show.

It was noted Royal Events were being encouraged for the coming Show Season – already approved were Hawarden, Sheep; Central Otago, Home Industries and Stratford, Dairy.

D Chesmar raised this on behalf of NZ Standardbred, NZ Pinto and NZ Gypsy Cob with the support of some other height related breeds - a modified height certificate/performance card which could include breed wins.

Background - originally at the Central District AGM the matter had been raised with the request to be able to ultilise stickers on the current RAS card. The RAS CEO advised this needed to be thought through carefully and all aspects including any possible, unexpected consequences needed to be considered. The Central District AGM agreed to set up a working party and liaise with RAS Head Office and work through this (Note to these minutes this unfortunately did not happen and so RAS Head Office have had no input into this modified height certificate).

The matter of breeds being added to the RAS certificate has been on the table before and the members at that time decided a separate performance card should be provided by the breeds and it was suggested they be colour coded for easy recognition. NZ Standardbred adopted this and introduced a separate performance card a few years ago. However, there has been problems with wins still being recorded on the RAS card, or judges claiming they had no knowledge of the Breed card and insisting on the wins being recorded on the RAS card, hence the request for a modified card.

General discussion ensured – some felt with the working groups and reviews underway it should wait for that process however, it was acknowledged that this could take some time. While a digital platform would fix many of these issues, action was required now. It was suggested this was perhaps more about educating the judges and stewards and even with a modified card there would continue to be errors and wins going in the wrong places. The view of the Breeds Societies involved is that they pay affiliation fees and as part of that affiliation fee they should have full access to the RAS Intellectual Property, i.e., the RAS Height Certificate/Performance Card. Resolved for this to have further discussion at the main equestrian meeting.

12. Election of Chair (forms part of the United Breed Society Executive Council).

 One nomination received for Mrs. Diane Chesmar Nominated by: NZ Standardbred Association & NZ Pinto Society. This is carried through to the AGM agenda, pages 47-48.

D Chesmar introduced herself – residing in the Central District and holds the position of Equestrian Chair. Shows harness horses, Immediate Past President of the Welsh Society, and an equestrian judge with a passion for volunteering. Looking to pull all the breeds together to present a united voice.

Meeting closed at 2.40pm.

CONFERENCE DAY 1

EQUESTRIAN MAIN MEETING

CHANCELLOR 1

Saturday 19 June 2021 Commenced immediately after the Breed Meeting

Present: As per previous meeting.

Welcome from RAS Executive:

- 1. Chairman: Helena McLeod
- 2. Secretary for Meeting: Debbie Cameron
- Apologies from any Organisations <u>not already taken at Meeting One.</u> Tina Sergeant
 Moved: Apology be accepted.
 M Jebson/W Collin.

Cara O'Connor

- Minutes
 Minutes of the Horse Stewards Meeting held on 21 June 2019, as circulated in Gazette No. 218 (2019), pages 21-30.

 Moved: The minutes of the 21 June 2019 are a true and correct record.
 K Russell/I Tippett
 CARRIED
- 5. Matters arising from minutes
- 6. Notice of any Item to be discussed under General Business, not on this Agenda.

Several points raised and these are noted under General Business.

7. Reports

Kindred Society delegates have all been asked for a one-page written report to be tabled with the agendas – see pages 21-24.

- NZ Carriage Driving Society
- NZ Equestrian Pleasure Society received
- NZ Riding Pony Society received
- NZ Side Saddle received
- Pony Breeders Society received

Moved: Reports to be received and taken as read.

M Jebson/L Taylor.

CARRIED

8. District Horse Stewards Chair Reports

As tabled– pages 55-70. Northern Geoff Smith Mid Northern Louellen Davies Western Trevor Latimer Eastern Wendy Collin Central Diane Chesmar Southern Ian Tippett

CARRIED

9. Judges – see RAS Report, pages 52-53.

- <u>Notification of District Judge Convenors</u> Northern – Leanne Cooke Mid Northern – Eastern – Megan Hawkins (assisting) Western – Megan Hawkins Central – Melissa Jebson Southern – Kristine Russell
- <u>Notification of new judges 3WT</u> Northern – Gaylene Stanaway, Grace Adnitt, Mel Yeo, Tina Portanger Mid-Northern – Leesa Bannicevich Eastern – Nicky Hansen Western – Central – Felicity Grant Southern – Tui Wilson, Sonia Gerken

 Notification of upgraded judges Northern – 3-2 Joanne Thomas (2019), 2-1 Amanda Parkes (2019) Mid-Northern – Eastern – 3 Carleen Hickling, 3 Jessie Bourke Western – Central – 3 Danielle Hughes, 3 Karyn Bethell, 3 Lisa Franicevic, 3 Colette Barrow; 3-2 Bronwyn Baird, Nicola Hamburger; 2-1 Kevin Lawrence, Kerri Moffett; Julie de Fillippi. Southern – 3 Georgina Bell, 3 Louise Allan; 3-2 Denise Wilson, Tryphena

Carter, Julianne Baynes; 2-1 Loretta Tait, Penelope Johnson

 <u>Notification of working hunter judges</u> Northern – Sara Ball (with tutor), Gerald Birdsall (2019), Steph Gowing (2019)
 Mid-Northern – Eastern –
 Western –
 Central – Sandra Pilcher
 Southern – Georgina Bell, Louise Allan (with tutor), Sonia Gerken (with tutor), Sarah Hassall (with tutor), Kristine Russell (with tutor), Sue Allan

• Notification of hunter jumping judges.

Northern – Sara Ball (with tutor), Gerald Birdsall (2019), Steph Gowing (2019) Mid-Northern – Eastern – Western –

Southern - Georgina Bell (with tutor), Louise Allan (with tutor), Sue Allan

Central -

 <u>Notification of tutor judges</u> Northern – Amanda Parkes, Claire Simpson (returned) Mid-Northern – Eastern –
 Western – Vaughan Cooper (returned) Central – Sue Morrish, Denise McPherson (returned), Judith Johnson (returned), Rosie Grimsey (returned) Southern –

Item 9 was noted by the meeting.

10. Clean Sport – see RAS Report, pages 52-53.

Test Stewards

RAS Executive will review any recommendations on a case-by-case basis.

11. Measuring- see RAS Report, pages 52-53.

• . Measuring Inspectors

RAS Executive will review the District nominations, and anything resulting from conference, at their next meeting.

• Measuring Stewards

RAS Executive will review the District nominations, and anything resulting from conference, at their next meeting.

• Measuring Fees

The Executive have reviewed the measuring levies. The Executive resolved to maintain the status quo.

Moved: Judges. Clean Sport and Measuring Reports received. D Chesmar/S Mann CARRIED

12. Report on Equine Health – Brent Snellex Theileria equi (T. equi)

The confirmation of Theileria equi (T. equi) in the country was our first experience of a disease response in partnership with MPI under the Government Industry Agreement GIA we signed in 2015. A positive PCR test confirmed the presence of the organism in a mare at a Waikato Stud and as a result the relatively open travel to Australia for horses was immediately closed.

The impeccable records at the stud allowed MPI lead Veterinary Disease Investigator Andrew McFadden to quickly establish the risk profile of all horses on the stud's properties. It was quickly established, after testing, that none of the in contact "high risk" group showed any evidence of exposure to the disease.

Tracing all the contact horses was a major logistic exercise and thanks goes to NZTR and the many equine practitioners who willingly assisted. The mare at the centre of the incursion was successfully relocated back to France before she reached 300 days of pregnancy. The clear results from all other horses tested means that we are T. equi disease free which has just been presented to the OIE and Australia.

El Readiness Plan

The Equine Influenza Readiness Manual, which had been revised following a workshop held an NZEHA meeting, was discussed.

Updates to the document included:

- Improved formatting and branding.
- Section on liaison brought into line with GIA operations.
- Most recent scientific knowledge incorporated into document. Included information on causative agent, subtypes, diagnostics, and vaccines.
- Learnings integrated into vaccine options in vaccine section.
 - Some response scenarios removed. (hypothetical situations, e.g. endemic in Australia).
 - Incorporation of Dr Sarah Rosanowski's vaccine strategy research.
- Modernisation of surveillance systems and terminology.
- Inclusion of learnings from other outbreaks, including M. bovis.
- Inclusion of description of use of powers and relevant sections of Biosecurity Act.
- Revised testing capacity and use of PCR testing.

Equine Vetintel

The Vetintel equine disease surveillance project continues to be extended out to equine veterinary practices across the country.

It was agreed that NZEHA should seek the assistance of further manpower to champion the VetIntel project. If a suitable person could be found NZEHA would provide for that person to visit as many equine veterinary practices as practical, in an effort to increase support for the project.

Equine ID and traceability in the NZ equine population

A session on national Equine ID and traceability occurred with members of the NZEHA, MPI, NAIT/OSPRI and others. It was clear that New Zealand needed to have a traceability system that must now to be considered for taking the project forward.

Discussions have been held with the Australian horse traceability working group and NZ are seeking a partnership with them as we work towards a common goal.

A first draft of a project brief to establish an MPI/equine sector joint working group with a workplan and budget has been established, further work will continue on this project during 2021.

B Snellex spoke to his report. Noted that micro-chipping will be coming in to play.

Moved: Report be received. S Mann/C O'Connor

CARRIED

13. Standard Schedule of Breed & Rider Classes for Royal NZ Show As part of the Strategic Business Review all schedules will be reviewed

Noted by the meeting.

14. Report from HOY – CANCELLED EVENT

Noted by the meeting.

15. Equestrian Youth Team – CANCELLED EVENT

Noted by the meeting. Report tabled by Melissa Jebson on the 2019 Equestrian Youth Team

The 2019 Youth Equestrian team were chosen from sixteen applications and an interview process with six chosen from the submitting of a Curriculum Vitae. Thanks to Robert Patullo who assisted Tryphena Carter and myself with the CV and interview phases. The team was announced in February which gave successful applicants five months to fundraise and organise themselves. This team has always been chosen on the understanding that all expenses are self-funded therefore everyone chose to enter and exit England at different times.

Having an older-aged team the team met at the Gatwick Hotel on the evening of 27th July at the starting point for the UK National Pony Society organised tour. Both the Australian and the New Zealand teams toured prior to the competition. Unfortunately, one of our members was delayed 24 hours because of fog so did not arrive until the first day of the tour which meant she hit the ground running. Having two cars was very convenient and Hertz upgraded us to automatic vehicles which was a bonus.

Our A&P donations and Conference raffle money was used to fuel our vehicles, entry tickets to various places/events, meals, and gifts. This proved invaluable as we didn't have to ask members for any money. Unfortunately, Tryphena and I did a lot of driving up and down England as per our host's itinerary, but we did see a lot and had awesome experiences.

The competition saw us accommodated on the Showgrounds in caravans (a convenient and practical idea that we used at Canterbury in 2017). The events happened over three days with most meals provided on the grounds. The first event was the Young Judges competition which saw the teams compete alongside over sixty additional young judges which meant the interview process took a long time. Meeting our borrowed horses took place at varying times depending what time the owner arrived on the grounds. Organisers tried to keep the initial riding time the same for all riders.

There was a brief meeting held at short notice prior to the first phase of the competition which Chef de quips from all countries plus National Pony Society representatives present.

Two decisions were made...

- 1. The bottom age has been raised from 14 to 18 years of age. This is because having to travel halfway around the world, it is safe to travel with legalised aged persons rather than with minors.
- 2. 2020 competition hosting order Australia, then New Zealand and back to the UK.

At this stage Australia hope to go ahead in 2022 which puts NZ as hosts in 2023 and back to the UK in 2024 – all going well.

Our New Zealand riders – Laura Macnab, Courtney Mullen, Ashleigh Tawhara and Maia Waretini were always polite, helped their hosts whenever required, all got on well together, showed leadership, supported each other well as a team and were a great team to take away. They always conducted themselves in a mature, positive manner and were great Ambassadors for the New Zealand Royal Agricultural Society and our sport of Showing. The UK won the Kevin Cholmondeley-Smith Trophy with NZ runner up and Australia 3rd.

Thank you for the opportunity to assist in giving our talented young riders the opportunity to represent New Zealand and to experience our sport of showing at this level.

Tryphena Carter and Melissa Jebson Chef de-quips

Moved: Report be received. M Jebson/L Tetenberg.

CARRIED

16. General Business including any other items raised at point 6

- Levies collected as tabled see pages 17-20. Noted by the meeting.
- Show Connect M Jebson urged the members to send through items for the RAS newsletter. Meeting requested the ability to sign up for the newsletter be resent.
- Equestrian Levies I Tippett asked how many clean sport tests had been done this season as the levies collected go towards this cost. It was noted this had been tabled in the Clean Sport report. Discussion ensured on the current rule that all equestrian sections are required to pay the equestrian levy of \$1.15 per entry. M McKerrow pointed out that some shows are not following this rule and asked the meeting what the members would like done about this. The following comments were noted:
 - A rule is a rule, no shades of grey.
 - ESNZ get the ability to use the A&P Shows as their vehicle to run their events and therefore ESNZ competitors contribute by paying the levy.
 - S Hansen from Masterton noted on the above point that Masterton have chosen to split off any ESNZ classes as they can then collect any levy from ESNZ competitors and keep it for their use rather than having to forward part of it on to the RAS.
 - Shows choose to interpret the rule in different ways, no teeth to deal with it.
 - Question asked whether breed members that run their own shows pay equestrian levies to the RAS – no.

To conclude this matter, the rule EESFL 1a was read out and the question was asked is this clear? Yes. Accordingly, a show of hands was requested as to whether the RAS should pursue any debts. The show of hands voted yes, no-one voted against.

One other point clarified by M McKerrow was equestrian levies are collected on behalf of the RAS. No member has the right to withhold those levies for any reason. Equally it is a breach of the competitor's trust to knowingly collect the levies and not pass them on.

• **Protests versus Complaints** – in short a complaint is a behavioural issue, and a protest is about a rule breach. Protests need to be handled at the show, by the show. If a complaint is made against a competitor for poor behaviour the show handles it, if a complaint is made against a Judge (RAS Official) the complaint comes through to RAS Head Office. A Watts raised the matter of, if a judge at a show visits the horse lines (for example) does the show have the right to deal with the matter? Yes. This is a clear rule breach, and the show is entitled to deal with the matter at the time however, a report should be sent into RAS Head Office as it

would be beneficial for District Judge Convenor to know of the matter so they could discuss this further with the judge concerned.

- **Concussion** both ESNZ and Pony Club have a system that deals with concussion however the systems are different. RAS do not have a current system mainly due to having no digital platform across the member societies that can handle this.
- Fall Card S Gowing from Whangarei A&P was asked to speak to the Fall Card system they utilise. Essentially, a competitor that is seen to have a fall from their horse or pony is given a "Fall Card". This card notes they had a fall and strongly recommends they seek medical advice and with instructions to where that medical advice can be located on the grounds. Noted this is not a concussion card although concussion may result from a fall. This is a card that protects the A&P Show as they have showed due diligence and responsibility towards the competitor. Collated with an Incident Report this is an excellent system. Whangarei A&P happy to share their template - R Walker to look at this to incorporate with the RAS H&S Manual. E Maxwell noted at this time the current Incident form was a bit "corporate"; agreed she would forward some feedback.
- Whisker & Ear trimming ESNZ and Pony Club brought in a ban on clipping the muzzle and inner ear hair of horses/ponies. The RAS indicated at the time they would look to follow suit in due course. Currently under rule GR6 this could be implemented as it is generally agreed that the clipping of those areas could cause unnecessary discomfort to the animal. Discussion on whether it needed to be an educational approach in the first instance or set a date and ask for it to be enforced. This will be taken through to the post conference Executive meeting and a decision will be made. Communication to all will follow.
- Breed Performance Cards/RAS Height Certificate following on from the discussion at the breed meeting options include wait for digital system and in the meantime educate judges and stewards how to utilise the Breed Performance Card correctly or add breed wins to the current RAS card or add stickers to the current card. This discussion will be considered at the post conference Executive meeting and a decision made.
- Attendance at HOY question was asked what the attendance requirement would be for HOY this year? This will be a matter for the HOY Showing Committee to discuss with the HOY Board and Management before any decision is made.
- Equestrian Rule Review this review is extensive, it is not just a matter of the rules; it is reliant on the strategic direction of the organisation, for example, around membership, digital platforms, and many other aspects. Once those aspects have been determined then the rules and simplification of them come into play. This group received 7 applications and all of them were accepted. It has resulted in a good cross section of people – judges, competitors, breeders and show convenors. The first zoom call has been held as a meet and greet and to establish a few common principles.

17 . Election of Horse Steward's Council Executive

- Chair term remains current for Helena McLeod.
- National Clean Sport Convenor term remains current for Maxine Mulligan.
- National Judge's Convenor no nominations received.
- National Measuring Convenor one nomination received for Stephani Mann

Nominated by: NZ Carriage Society & Eastern District Chair

This is carried through to the AGM agenda, pages 47-48.

Steph Mann introduced herself, currently involved with the Carriage Driving Society, and has been a measurer at the Carterton Stand for several years.

Meeting closed at 3.59pm.

A&P Association	Entries &	Entries &	Entries &						
	& Levy	Levy	Levy	Levy					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bay of Islands	1055	975	1030	1096	1129	1478.40	1086.75	1084.45	NS
Clevedon	1762	1520	1208	1465	NS	1257.30	1159.20	1478.00	NS
Kaikohe	1015	884	549		484	548.90	745.30	746.35	447.35
Whangarei	2371	2112	2318	1880	1596	1758.90	1467.40	1937.75	1700.85
Warkworth	781	1152	1173	883	1446	1272.10	NE	NS	
North Kaipara		625	724	704	641	607.40	849.85	722.20	811.90
Nthn Wairoa (Arapohue)	1092	812	710	845	593	773.30	770.50	755.54	1023.50
Waitemata		NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
North Hokianga	289	401	375	285	221	NS	358.80	408.25	NS
Helensville	994	875	839	761	884	NS	914.25	1062.60	1101.70
Kaitaia		392	435	317	267	317.90	366.85	318.55	
Kumeu	1333	1306	1114	1108	811.00	947.10	1048.50	727.95	1301.80
Auckland	1712	1918	NS	-	-	1166.00	1437.50	NS	NS
Franklin	1967	1819	2019	1777	1809	1789.70	1689.35	1618.05	
Matamata	936	707	868	960	NS	836.00	959.10	1091.15	1090.20
Waikato	2100	1900	1819	1774	1557	1800.00	1888.30	1871.05	673.90
Tokoroa	271	352	390	280	307	374.00	NS	NS	NS
Waihi	589	610	578	670	584	504.90	529.00	529.00	NS
Te Aroha	577	545	722	545	816	644.40	817.65	724.50	1100.75
Cambridge	1758	1912	1528	1398	1137	1272.70	1513.40	1734.20	1105.15
Te Kauwhata		592	400	724	365	1295.20	1279.95	1315.60	1147.70
NI Premier	715	130	281	347	299	463.32	454.25	427.80	506.00
Paeroa	983	816			746	1038.17	654.35		750.95
Tauranga	302	544	625	583	459	453.20	630.20	299.00	326.10
Rotorua	1101	996	894	797	686	608.30	603.75	335.50	516.00
Katikati		204	192	228	243	220.00	258.75	215.05	NS

Royal Agricultural Society Equestrian Levy 2020/21 show year

A&P ASSOCIATION	Entries &	Entries &	Entries &						
	& Levy	Levy	Levy	Levy					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Taumarunui	412	329	396	-	1312.82	-	_	-	-
Te Puke	422	309	266	275	215	205.70	332.35	147.20	NS
Morrinsville	859	663	713	587	573	636.90	549.67	512.90	NS
Poverty Bay	1598	1608	1523	1495	1740	1822.70	2139.00	1886.00	1999.85
Hawkes Bay	2712	2764	2585	3101	2593	2429.90	3638.60	3363.75	1431.75
HBS Championships		447	551	554	861	724.90	862.50	NA	NA
Wairarapa	2268	2442	2300	1066	2439	1098.90	2949.75	2418.45	1243.15
Central Hawkes Bay	1739	1925	2026	2271	1852	865.70	469.20	1775.60	2909.50
Wairoa	1248	1449	1419	1510	481	1290.30	1171.85	1044.20	1233.95
Dannevirke	1879	1815	1419	1741	1639	1142.00	1164.00	1935.45	1710.05
NZ National H & P	1537	1404	1584	1194	1157	NS	1369.65	1086.75	2121.75
Pukahu					364.00	475.20	NS	2021.70	NS
Masterton	2068	2048	2379	688	2070		1451.30	1746.85	846.40
Manawatu	1198	909	1167	1167	1564	1857.90	1833.10	1983.75	2249.40
Wanganui	1572	1691	1474	922	752	NS	1733.05	2124.05	2886.50
Waverley	216	1098	771		525	669.90	773.95	1138.50	1079.85
Egmont	736	1334	913	768	744	884.40	1636.50	1603.10	1419.10
Stratford	1377	1433	1230	565	840	915.20	1191.40	1304.60	1651.40
Feilding	2014	NS	1485	1533	1282	2466.20	2488.60	2310.35	2490.00
Taranaki	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NS	NS	NS	NS
Taranaki H & P	442	368	509	442	359	487.30	518.65	NS	276.00
Horowhenua	1630	1495	1359	1374	1288	1149.50	1322.50	1279.95	1370.80
Royal A&P Show		960	-	HB	HB	HB	HB	HB	HB
Taihape	463	419	775	636	405	429.00	NE	NE	NE
Waimarino	348	70	273	424	513	556.60	562.25	723.50	514.05
Ellesmere	1338	1226	1190	1324	1312	869.00	1403.00	1332.85	NS
Northern (Rangiora)	2100	1864	1580	1750	2067	2058.10	2118.30	2170.05	NS

A&P Association	Entries &	Entries &	Entries &						
	& Levy	Levy	Levy	Levy					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Ashburton	1874	1574	1568	1500	1312	1158.30	1611.15	1419.10	NS
Amberley	1377	1281	1310	1173	1171	1421.20	1189.10	1190.25	1275.35
Marlborough	1412	1311	1308	1323	1027	904.20	1061.45	1229.35	NS
Canterbury	2700	2750	2963	3078	3197	2928.20	2711.35	2820.95	2082.10
Sth Canty Show	501	468	429	920	NS	1522.40	1377.70	540.50	1373.10
Sth Canty (prevTimaru date)	749	785	650	920	992	497.00	714.15	1411.05	1258.10
Courtenay	992	1113	1321	1090	1252	1563.10	1576.65	1363.90	234.60
Nelson	1169	1072	1109	933	945	946.00	1204.05	1230.50	960.25
Motueka	1184	1357	1264	1089	1050	562.10	780.85	1070.65	NS
Buller	500	296	173	197	178	206.80	428.95	274.00	263.75
Duvauchelle	665	787	176	153	829	751.30	792.00	756.70	464.60
Golden Bay	503	370	411	364	377	247.50	296.70	564.65	713.00
Banks Peninsula	780	724	828	708	721	726.00	717.60	564.65	713.00
Westland (Hokitika)	364	388	490	324	339	339.90	456.55	570.40	507.15
Inangahua (Reefton)	585	593	441	375	388	388.30	383.00	403.65	592.25
Murchison	582	489	418	701	627		886.65	983.25	1173.00
Sth Westland (Whataroa)	279	314	154	112	168	330.00	NS	203.55	NS
Kaikoura		648	804	637	NS	665.50	979.80	856.75	784.30
Amuri (Rotherham)	769	780	884	805	805	288.20	790.65	701.50	NS
Rai Valley	483	490		292	515	399.30	377.20	644.00	NS
Temuka & Geraldine	680	719	648	659	712	776.60	1012.00	944.15	NS
SI Premier Show	804	512	702	723	1150	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cheviot	991	828	949	879	803	759.90	954.50	669.30	1578.95
Mayfield	541	673	395	609	668	666.60	853.30	816.50	1003.95
Hawarden	736	772	792	983		6.00	698.05	NS	749.80
Methven		923	622	912	725	753.50	777.40	NS	1025.80
Flaxbourne	526	375	588	507	472	541.20	635.95	627.90	822.25
Malvern	719	756	880	788	760	1057.10	1411.05	NS	1247.75
Mackenzie Highland	1171	849	856	771	721	757.90	878.60	NS	715.30

A&P Association	Entries &	Entries &	Entries &						
	& Levy	Levy	Levy	Levy					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Oxford	1363	1481	1482	1540	1415	1289.20	1447.85	231.15	1511.10
West Otago	696	1010	611	665	829	567.60	583.20	887.80	884.35
North Otago	458	398	510	677	631	433.40	723.35	790.05	891.50
South Otago	422	351	353	89	740	366.30	31.05/NS	610.65	572.70
Gore	732	798	934	866	832	1158.30	1160.35	1242.00	1193.70
Wyndham	495	531	NS	490	461	574.20	552.00	678.50	518.65
Otago Peninsula	60	30	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Southland	1035	1263	1055	1079	669	1245.20	1399.55	1300.65	NS
Tokomairiro	578	565	550	684	721	707.30	976.35	826.85	656.65
Lake County	439	368	555	498	521	526.90	552.00	527.85	741.75
Palmerston/Waihemo	518	478	502	888	928	981.20	1012.00	817.65	753.25
Waiau	142	143	375	388	292.00	496.00	655.50	368.00	634.80
Otago Taieri	964	575	777	1272	815	1101.10	1499.60	1516.85	1391.50
Winton	824	858	802	637	748	982.30	931.50	926.90	982.10
Central Otago		1032.17	760	886	922	1073.60	1139.65	1122.40	1021.20
Maniototo	511	475	592	580	591	935.00	1014.30	577.30	NS
Mt Benger	536	591	632	589	827	793.10	672.75	645.15	759.00
Upper Clutha	1295	1708	1496	1625	1598	1722.60	1350.10	1567.45	1569.75
Blueskin	NE	NE	NE						
Strath Taieri	516	171		127		121	450).37	

Reports

NZ Equestrian Pleasure Society

Like most groups we were forced to adjust due to the impact of Covid19.

Our society decided to roll over all memberships and horse registration from the 2019 / 2020 season to the current season, whilst still accepting and encouraging new memberships. Our membership database continues to steadily increase, with more riders joining the society from both ends of the country.

The cancellation of the Landrover Horse of The Year show was a huge disappointment to riders, but totally understandable. In view of this, the society decided to offer our riders an end of season competition, which was held at Foxton on the 24th April 2021.

Riders who had entered LHOY were given a free entry into our title classes, called champion of champions, and we had one rider from Christchurch travel especially to attend.

We are looking forward to the next season and hope it will be without the challenges of the last.

Leeanne Morrison Chairperson NZEPS

NZ Golden Horse Society

Like so many other A & P shows and Societies, it has been a difficult year with Covid. With the cancelling of complete A & P shows, to the shows that scaled back their classes – to only have HOY qualifier classes. On the bright side the A & P shows that New Zealand Golden horse classes that did go ahead at, our numbers were very good. Our judges have mentioned our quality of horses and ponies is excellent.

We look forward to hopefully having a more settled season and being able to support the A & P shows with our New Zealand Golden Horse entries.

Secretary of the New Zealand Golden Horse Society Wendy Blithe

NZ Gypsy Cob

And just like that another year is over, shows are done for the year, and everyone is preparing for the joys of owning cobs in the winter. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term as president of the NZGCA, and together with my hardworking and supportive committee members Julie Coker, Tracy Wilde, Chris Gray, Gay Hayward, Debra Garner, Miranda Nicoll, Pippa Newby, and Debbie Lister, I would like to thank you for being part of the NZGCA and to take this opportunity to reflect on the year.

The NZGCA committee has been hard at work this year on behalf of its members. NZGCA membership is relatively stable compared with previous years - we currently have 81 general members (2020: 78) and 10 life members (2020: 10). We acknowledge how difficult the prior year has been for everyone because of COVID-19 and as such we reduced membership fees for the year. We have had three new committee members join us this year, Debra Garner, Miranda Nicoll with Debbie Lister seconded onto the committee later in the season. These three members have not been afraid to get stuck in and have brought some valuable ideas and skills to complement the rest of committee. Once again, Bridget Allison has been fabulous in organising the two South Island shows and HOY which we really appreciate.

A large part of the NZGCA's directive is to maintain the Register and Studbook. Horse registration numbers stand at 240 Purebred Gypsy Cobs and 460 Partbred Gypsy Cobs and 23 Drum Horses. Registrations of purebred and partbreds are continuing to steadily increase. Our Drum register shows significant growth, with increasing numbers of Drum horses being registered.

The show season has been a challenging one to say the least. COVID-19 has seen the cancellation of shows up and down the country which has been highly disappointing for show organisers, sponsors, and competitors alike. With the cancellation of most of the A&P Shows in the Auckland region as well as Waikato A&P, the committee held a Waikato Spring Show at Cambridge RDA to provide another HOY qualifying opportunity for upper North Island competitors. Similarly, In the South, the cancellation of Northern A&P, SI Premier Show, and the impending cancellation of the Canterbury A&P Show, saw Bridget Allison and her show team run a successful South Island Spring Show on 24th October.

As the season progressed, it became clear that it was going to be difficult for many people to qualify for HOY. To address this, the committee waived HOY qualification requirements for the season allowing those competitors that had already qualified to carry their qualifications over to the following year. Feedback from members was positive, however, disappointingly HOY also fell victim to COVID-19 with the cancellation of the show.

In more positive show news, Bridget Allison and her show team ran the well-attended South Island Gypsy Cob Show on the 12th of December, with 24 entered. The weather was fabulous, and competitors looked to really enjoy the show. In the North, the North Island Gypsy Cob and Drum saw 24 competitors attend the show at NEC Taupo on 17th April after it was cancelled the previous season. The committee, following with members trialled a split in the partbred classes between Sport Type and Draft Type cobs. The intention was to better reflect the differences in type among the partbreds. Overall feedback was positive, and the committee will discuss and continue to refine the split going forward. Additionally, separate Drum classes were held for the first time, which we are excited to see grow as Drum Horse numbers increase.

Committee work this year has included communication with members, administering and collating Hi Points, Lifetime Achievement, and other annual awards, recording novice show wins, NZGCA show organisation, liaising with A&P societies and the RAS, and sponsorship of A&P Shows. Additionally, our Newsletter Editor, Pippa Newby has produced several fabulous newsletters for our members which have been well received. If you have any ideas or content for the newsletter, please feel free to contact us.

As part of streamlining our online presence, we have amalgamated and archived unused Facebook groups, created FB page rules, set up a dedicated email address for all NZGCA correspondence, and maintained a page on the NZGCA website where it is free for members to advertise their horses. In the showing arena, we have separated the paced and mannered ridden classes which will provide ridden competitors an extra class on show day. During the year, an issue came to light with the reliability of DNA verification process of horses registered with another NZ society. A remit was successfully carried at the SGM in August 2020 to ensure the integrity of our studbook was maintained. We are currently trialling a new DNA verification process direct with Massey with several of the larger breeders and we hope to roll this out to members in the future.

I am looking forward to another productive and successful year as your President. I have my fingers crossed that the coming season will not be as disrupted as this last one has been. There are still a good number of A&Ps around the country that have Gypsy Cob classes so please get out and support them if you can. If showing is not your thing, never fear! The versatile Gypsy Cob and Drum horse can turn their hoof to anything, and I'd love for you to share with us photos and stories of your lovely cobs out and about on the NZGCA Facebook page and the newsletter. As always, the committee welcomes feedback from members so do drop us a line if you have any ideas, comments, suggestions or want to get involved. On a more personal note, I am really looking forward to getting my 2yo Purebred Chatto Creek Connor out and about this coming season after a few years away from the showing scene.

Kind regards,

Annika Jackson President, New Zealand Gypsy Cob Association

NZ Riding Pony Society Report to RAS Conference 2021

Greetings to everyone, Like everyone due to Covid the NZRPS has had a challenging year.

Unfortunately, with a number of shows cancelled it meant our beautiful NZRPS sashes were not awarded at as many shows and only one Melville Black Memorial Competition was held with the sad cancellation of HOY. Because of this the Council decided in fairness to all to cancel our Performance and Young Producer Competitions this season and commence them again this coming season.

On a brighter note our Stud Book Classifiers have had a very busy time with numbers being inspected very high in the North Island and this does not include some that were to be done at HOY, now to be done at a later date. This is very encouraging and shows animals are still being bred.

After no Conference last year, we will at the same time be joining Pony Breeders and the Welsh Societies in Palmerston North in June for our AGM and Council meetings and are hoping for good attendance numbers.

Beautiful, registered Riding Ponies continue to scoop the major awards at most Shows and Councillors and volunteers and breeders are to be congratulated.

Our great band of Councillors and Volunteers continually strive to make the NZRPS bigger and brighter and our Journal produced twice yearly is second to none and eagerly awaited by all members, thank you to our fantastic editor Debbie Schnell.

New Prefixes are still being registered showing new breeding is happening and new people becoming involved.

We thank all the Shows that run our Sash Classes on our behalf to show case the Society's beautiful ponies. This is much appreciated, a big thank you to all.

Kindest Regards on behalf of the NZ Riding Pony Society. Alan Windle President.

NZ Side Saddle

As with every other group, it has been a most unusual year with most of our goals taken from us. Members in the North Island managed to compete side saddle at three shows, as did members in the South Island. However, the South Island, suffered with shows that normally run side saddle classes either being cancelled or dropping the section.

When we do get back to normal, may we remind RAS judges who are given side saddle to judge, please start work on the right rein, please don't make the most of the workout at a trot and PLEASE don't judge the mount on conformation. Side saddle horses must be suitable for a lady to ride with the emphasis on paces, manners, elegance and looks like a lady's horse. We have distributed Judging Guidelines to A&P Shows and urge your judges to read them.

After a tough time for everyone, we look forward to normalcy and wish RAS all the best in your organization, through this difficult time.

NZ Standardbred Society

As I do every year, I would first like to extend thanks to all the shows that have chosen to include our breed schedule of classes at their show.

We are grateful for this and hope our ongoing sponsorship goes some way into helping you provide these classes for the Standardbred competitors, especially through a somewhat unknown "COVID season". Here's hoping to a return to a full uninterrupted season for 21/22!

Since our last report in 2019 we have continued to have our 'green' Breed Performance card in play for our competitors and unfortunately the problems we initially had, have continued, and not really eased up despite constant publicising of the card and when it was to be carried and used. In fact, if anything, more problems seemed to occur from all sides.

So again, would like it noted that we strongly advocate for space to be made available for breeds to record wins on the RAS card.

One card to rule them all just makes more sense and less confusion for those judges and stewards out there...(and the odd competitor!!!!!)

We were lucky enough to have Livamol come on board this season to trial a similar series to that of the Thoroughbreds and am pleased to say, for the coming season this has been extended to include more shows in both islands.

To end, just a quick thanks to NZSBA for their support on the Standardbred Showing movement at this time and to all those that help run these classes as we all know without their support we wouldn't be able to enjoy showing our horses.

Julie DeFilippi

Pony Breeders Society of New Zealand Inc.

We would like to thank the A&P shows who could carry on with their shows this season and supporting our sash classes. To the shows who had to cancel or made the hard decision earlier on not to have a show we wish you all the best with the coming season as we learn to live with Covid.

Our membership is down this year as with covid and our newsletter editor becoming busier with work we have not had as many newsletters published. Some of our members like the hard copy of a newsletter to keep them in touch with what is going on around the rest of the country. Not everyone is on email or like to keep in touch with Facebook and other similar accounts.

Thank you to our councillors who took it upon themselves to carry on our annual foal show in a new way with videos and photographs being presented online to the judges. Some of the exhibitors enjoyed not having to leave home in the early hours to compete. We are doing the same this year to add something different to the showing calendar and making it easier and less stressful for everyone. This show is open to everyone not just our members.

Michelle Mair Secretary

CONFERENCE DAY 1 CONTINUED

CHANCELLOR 1

Saturday 19 June 2021

4.00pm – 4.45pm Guest Speaker – The Art of Communication

Nic Barkley

CONFERENCE DAY 2 DELEGATES PRESENT

Kelly Allison (RAS Executive, Tokomairio A&P, Life Member), Maria Barta (Southern District), Heather Brake (Rotorua A&P), Kylie Brewer (Galloway Society), Ben Burgess (UBS Chair), Debbie Cameron (RAS CEO), Diane Chesmar (Central District), Wendy Collin (NZ National H&P), Simon Collin (Hawkes Bay A&P), Sharon Cook (Northern Chair), Leanne Cook (Northern District), Louellen Davies (Mid Northern District), Mary Davis (Western District), Christine Fowles (Purebred Jersey / Marlborough A&P), James Fox (Southern District), Mark Fleming (Beef Breeds Chair), Stephanie Gowing (Whangarei A&P), John Grigg (RAS Past President), Rob Hall (Gore A&P), Sophie Hansen (Masterton A&P), Fe Howie (Upper Clutha A&P, Life Member), Jennifer Huddleston (Central Otago A&P), Melissa Jebson (RAS Executive), Jackie Kelly (Southern District, Life Member)), Trevor Latimer (Western District), Michelle Mair (Pony Breeders), Chris Mason (Whangarei A&P, Hon. Life Member), Emmy Maxwell (Cheviot A&P), Duncan McArthur (Temuka Geraldine A&P), Malcolm McKerrow (RAS Executive), Helena McLeod (HSCEx Chair), Bruce McRobbie (Mid Northern District), Maxine Mulligan (Clean Sport Convenor), Cara O'Connor (RAS Executive), Brad Powell (Manawatu A&P), Christine Roberts (RAS Admin., Oxford A&P, Life Member). Annette Robinson (Nelson A&P), Sam Rutherford (Central District), Philippa Sanders (Black & Coloured Sheep), Anne Scott (Auckland A&P), Andrea Scott, David Scott (Life Member), Geoff Smith (RAS Executive, Life Member), Mike Smith (Southland A&P, Life Member), Brent Snellex (RAS Vice President), Jane Stalker (Upper Clutha A&P), Ian Stevenson (Sheep Breeds Chair), Leigh Taylor (Te Kauwhata A&P), Lyn Tetenburg (Rotorua A&P), Gilbert Timms (Perendale Sheep, Cheviot Sheep, Life Member), Diana Timms (Horowhenua A&P), Jill Timms (Horowhenua A&P), Ian Tippett (Southern District), Rachel Walker (RAS Vice President), Anne Watts (Clevedon A&P), Alan Windle (NZ Riding Pony), Kay Worthington, Philip Worthington (Lowline Cattle).

CONFERENCE DAY 2 UBS MEETING

CHANCELLOR 1

Sunday 20 June 2021

Welco	me from RAS Executive:	Brent Snellex
1.	Chairman:	Ben Burgess

- 2. Secretary for Meeting: Christine Roberts
- Apologies: Marie FitzPatrick (Oxford A&P), and John Jebson (Central District),
 Moved: That the above apologies be received.
 S Collin / W Colin
 CARRIED

4. Notice of any item to be discussed under General Business, not on this agenda

- B McRobbie: Equestrian Portfolio.
- B McRobbie: MBovis.

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- J Kelly Royal Shows.
- J Kelly Role of the Breed Societies and their Meetings.
- M Jebson Show Connect.
- I Stevenson Golden Fleece Competition.

5. Chairman's Report – Tabled in Gazette No. 2020 (2021)

Amazing how quickly the time flies as it feels like just last week I was writing last year's report. The last 12 months has been unsettled for most part with changing Covid restrictions leading to many events in the early half of the year cancelled or postponed.

Back in February myself and partner Georgia were once again able to take some cattle along to the Dannevirke A&P show, while we did not come away with many prizes on the day it was great to get back out and about, catching up with friends we hadn't seen in a number of months.

Isolated pockets of dry patches again have been testing the rural industries around the country with Banks Peninsula and Hawkes Bay to name a couple. While the rural industry is resilient, these do take their toll on the local communities.

Strong export demand for grass fed New Zealand product, both meat and milk, have helped aid in the economy's response to travel restrictions.

I would like to thank you all very much for allowing me to again stand for the position of UBS and look forward to representing the various views and needs over the coming season. Thanks, must again go out to my representative chairs, as without them and their hard work my role would be a lot more complicated.

I look forward to catching up with you all at conference.

Ben Burgess - Chair Moved: That the UBS Chairperson's Annual Report be received.

Beef Breed Matters - Chair passed to Mark Fleming.

- 6. Minutes
 Minutes of the Beef Breeds Meeting held on 22 June 2019, as circulated in Gazette
 No. 218 (2019), pages 42-46.
 Moved: That the Beef Breeds Annual Meeting Minutes held on 22 June 2019
 as circulated be approved as a true and correct record.
 P Worthington / P Saunders
 CARRIED
- 7. Matters Arising from the Minutes not elsewhere in the Agenda. No matters arising.

8. Chairman's Report – to be received

Welcome to this year's RAS Beef Chairman's Report.

Autumn is proving to be very warm and dry, with most of the East Coast of New Zealand being greatly affected. We are getting heavy dews each morning helping cool the ground temperature and slow the grass growth hence the opening up of feed crops and supplementary feed crops is well under way.

The calf sale prices are drifting back as a lot of properties don't have the feed normally for buying calves to grow out. It will be interesting to see if we have a mild winter which will help those farmers with feed and supplement shortages.

The NAIT system is now running well, with good communication coming from NAIT to the Farmers. The reports from the online system are very helpful if you use them to reconcile with stock movements on and off your properties. The traceability system that helps keep track of our stock as they grow and move off our properties into the export, domestic and stud markets is very important as we have seen with the Mycoplasma Bovis outbreak. It is great that we can trace these animals and their movements now with confidence.

As of 22nd of April 2021, MPI's has updated their M Bovis Eradication programme to show that 10 herds were being monitored for M Bovis and 252 were now cleared of M Bovis. But there are still 137 properties on Active Surveillance.

It is also interesting to see from OSPRI News the follow announcements: -

 Do you have pigs, goats, or sheep? It is now your legal obligation to declare all non-NAIT animals on-farm and provide an estimate of the number each year by July 31. See Link:

https://www.ospri.co.nz/guides-and-tutorials/declare-non-nait-animals-in-nait/

2) To help minimise potential spread of TB [bovine tuberculosis] in the bush, OSPRI and AsureQuality have teamed up together to produce an education video to build more awareness among hunters. See Link:
https://www.wewtube.com/wetch?wewtube?com/set/form

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSkf8gMElfg

This year things look a lot better for our A&P showing, with the Summer and Autumn Shows being able to run but under strict Covid rules. I enjoyed a couple of excellent days at the Wanaka show, amazing weather, with great attendance from the public. To our other A&Ps keep up the good work with your diverse schedule of classes and events that are unique to your shows. Every A&P's formula is different which makes them strong and fun for their community.

Stud owners and exhibitors have had a trying time in preparing stock for the showing season because of the issues of Mycoplasma Bovis but also under the guidance of the Covid 19 rules. Some shows have not been able to run their normal Cattle classes. But it is pleasing to see all the planning and protocols that have been put in place has allowed the shows to continue.

Please remember if you have young stockmen and women that wish to be involved in the judging competitions or the Rural awards competitions, please put their names forward at you're A&P shows or your Breed Society.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your support and help over this last year with differing beef issues and invite anyone who has concerns or questions to please contact me as I am here as your Beef Representative to help you and your breed.

Kind Regards Mark Fleming RAS Beef Breeds Chairman <u>Email: willowleastud@xtra.co.nz</u>

Moved: That the Beef Breeds Chairperson's Annual report be received. P Worthington / P Saunders CARRIED

9. Beef Breed Society Reports – see pages 30-31.

Breed Society delegates have all been asked for a one-page written report to be tabled with the agendas.

- Australia NZ Blonde d' Aquitaine Society not currently a financial member
- Belgian Blue Cattle Society no report.
- Charolais Breeders NZ Inc no report.
 S Collin One Show held at Dannevirke in autumn. Good turn out with approx. 50 cattle exhibited. Society members are growing.
- Dexter Cattle Society NZ Inc. no report.
- Galloway Cattle Society no report.
 K Brewer Approx. 70 members, 4 recognised coloured patterns. Hosting International Conference in 2025.
- Gelbvieh Cattle Breeders Soc no report.
- Limousin Beef Breeders Soc no report.
- NZ Angus Association no report.
- NZ Beef Shorthorn Assn no report.
- NZ Charolais Cattle Society received
- NZ Hereford Association no report.
- NZ Highland Cattle Society no report.
- NZ Highland Lifestyle Society received
- NZ Maine Anjou Cattle Soc no report.
- NZ Murray Grey Beef Cattle no report.
- NZ Pinzgauer Society no report.
- NZ Red Poll Cattle Breeders M Fleming – tabled and read out a report from the breed. This year's AGM was held in Masterton in May. A group of twenty breeders visited five studs in the surrounding area over two days finishing with the

AGM. The Society endeavours to hold the AGM in a different part of NZ each year. In 2023 our Society is hoping to hold the World Red Poll Congress in NZ this will only be possible if COVID is playing ball. Breeders from the UK, Australia, Canada, USA, South Africa, Uruguay, and Jamaica will be present. This year also represented 125 years of Red Polls in NZ. One of the main issues our breed has had to face is to the cost of DNA profiling. Now just the Herd Sire has to be DNA tested and not the Dam of each registered calf. We feel as a Breed the right balance has to be attained between maintaining correct genetic records and minimising costs for the Stud Breeder. Although our breed maybe small in numbers across NZ we feel our future is bright and the demand for our Beef is very sought after. Ian Fleming – President.

- NZ Salers Society received
- Santa Gertrudis Breeders no report.
- Lowline Promotion Group
 P Worthington Two groups work independently in NI and IS but also working
 well together. Chair very active in the Society. Numbers of herds stable and
 seeing an uptake with lifestyle blocks.
- Simmental Cattle Breeders no report.
- South Devon Cattle Society no report.
- Speckle Park International no report.
- Welsh Black Cattle Breeders no report.

MOVED: That the tabled Annual Reports from affiliated Beef Cattle Breeds, be received.

M Fleming / P Worthington

CARRIED

10. Royal Show Schedule – Beef Section – As part of the Strategic Business Review all schedules will be reviewed.

RAS President – Individual working groups are looking at Royal Shows, Royal Events and Breed Schedules. Once the review has been done, expressions of interest will be called for a Royal Show.

- **11.** Any other Beef Breed matters No other Beef Breed matters tabled.
- **12.** Election of Beef Chairperson term remains current for M Fleming.

Beef Breed Reports

NZ Charolais Cattle Society

The New Zealand Charolais Cattle Society (Inc) recently celebrated their 52nd Annual General Meeting and held a herd tour in the Northland region.

The Societies Council remains stable with Mr Stuart Bryant (of Nelson) as President of the Society.

The membership of the Society has remained steady, and despite several key stud resignations, the small group remains passionate about the breed and its future as a terminal sire for the beef industry.

Sadly, resignations seem to reflect the current climate of all Breed Societies and concern is regarding the survival of these groups. The younger generations at this point in time don't seem to see the relevance in joining or retaining these Societies.

The Society has 18 Breeding members, 15 Associate members and 3 Life Members, and our next AGM and Herd Tour will be in the Kaikoura/ Canterbury region from $20^{th} - 25^{th}$ March 2022.

Annette NZ Charolais Cattle Society

RAS Conference Minutes 2021

The New Zealand Lifestyle Highland Society Inc Report for 2020/21

Well it has been a couple of challenging years for any breeder of livestock let alone our own breed society with MBovis and then Covid19 affecting us all. Membership holds steady with some leaving the industry and others joining. Highland Cattle remain a popular breed for Lifestyle Block owners to own. The showing season for the NZ Lifestyle Highland Society has seen our President Lisa Berthold and her Woolly Manor Moos team win Royal Supreme Champion Highland at Stratford along with Supreme Champion Lifestyle titles at both Stratford and Dannevirke. Lisa has reported that not only has the Covid situation hindered many shows, there is also the Bio Security aspect that many are still very nervous of. Encouraging new people to show is also difficult and frustrating at times. Lisa is also the Beef Chairman for the Wairarapa A&P at Clareville and says while entries were definitely up last show in 2019 it will be a hard road ahead to grow cattle sections for all shows in the new world we now find ourselves in

Dairy Breed Matters - Chair to pass to Kelly Allison.

13. Minutes

Minutes of the Dairy Breeds Meeting held on 22 June 2019, as circulated in Gazette No. 218 (2019), pages 46-47. Moved: That the Minutes of the Dairy Cattle Breeds Annual Meeting held on

22 June 2019 as circulated be approved as a true and correct record. B Powell / B McRobbie CARRIED

14. Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere in this agenda.

J Kelly – Heifer Competition.

15. Chairman's Report – Chair tabled and read out his annual report.

What a year or should I say two years we have experienced. We are in unprecedented times and the challenges being experienced by New Zealand is reflected in the A&P movement.

On the Dairy side of things, we were just recovering from MBovis and most shows planning on offering full schedules this past Show season after having reduced or in some cases no Dairy sections being run. Then COVID19 arrived really impacting the early spring shows and some very unlucky autumn shows were caught up in the second lockdown in February. On a positive note, most breed societies did hold North and South Island Championships at various shows and dairy was able to have a Royal Show hosted by Stratford Show, as Hawkes Bay did not run the Royal Show.

Looking at the industry as a whole the Dairy industry has come through COVID19 in a strong position with strong global demand for Dairy products reflecting a milk price of north of \$7.50 kgMS this past season with close to \$8 looking likely for next season.

Moved: That the Dairy Breeds Chairperson's Annual Report be received. K Allison / P Worthington CARRIED

16. Dairy Breed Society Reports – see pages 32-34.

Breed Society delegates have all been asked for a one-page written report to be tabled with the agendas. While additional comments welcome to existing reports, no full verbal reports to be tabled at conference.

• Anglo Nubian Breed Society of NZ – not currently a financial member.

- Brown Swiss Cattle Breeders no report.
- NZ Ayrshire Association received.
- NZ Dairy Goat Breeders Association no report.
- NZ Guernsey Cattle Breeders no report.
- NZ Holstein-Friesian Association received.
- NZ Jersey Cattle Breeders received.
- NZ Milking Shorthorn Association received.
- Premier Dairy Goats NZ no report.
- Purebred Jersey Breed Society no report.
- South Island Dairy Heifer Competition not held this year.
- Dairy Cattle Levy \$3,005 for the financial year.

Moved: That the tabled Annual Reports from affiliated Dairy Cattle Breeds, be received.

K Allison / B Powell

CARRIED

17. Royal Show Schedule – Dairy Section – As part of the Strategic Business Review all schedules will be reviewed.

RAS President – Individual working groups will be looking at Royal Shows, Royal Events and Breed Schedules. Once the review has been completed, expressions of interest will be called for a Royal Show.

18. Any other Dairy Breed Matters

J Kelly – Southern District run a Dairy Heifer Competition through most of their Shows. Would like to see it resume to include Central District as well.

19. Election of Dairy Chairperson – term remains current for K Allison.

Dairy Breed Reports

Holstein Friesian NZ

With Mycoplasma Bovis followed by Covid-19, the showing movement has struggled to get momentum in the last few years. From a Breed Society perspective this has seen us looking at different ways to engage with our membership, outside of shows. Social media and online forums have become more the norm, allowing for a larger reach in New Zealand and around the world.

As some shows were held in the 2020/21 our Black & White cow has been dominant in the show ring. The North Island Championships were held at Horowhenua A & P Show with Lakeview Ok Addington VG89 being crowned Holstein Friesian North Island Champion Cow. Early in 2021 the South Island Championships were held at the Gore A & P Show and the South Island Champion Cow was Paretai Mogul Pandora VG88.

The National All Dairy Breeds Youth camp is a major focus for Holstein Friesian New Zealand's Black & White Youth programme. This year the camp was held in Southland and thanks must go to the members and business from the area whose support of the camp was tremendous. The camp runs over the 4 days and is open to all young breeders, regardless of age or breed.

Young breeders attending the National All Dairy Breeds Youth camp cover a wide range of activities from preparing a heifer for showing, to learning about the NZ dairy industry, photographing animals and the welfare of animals prepared for the show ring. This year it

was pleasing to see past camp participants returning to assist with the running of the camp and passing on the knowledge and skills that they have gained along the way.

In 2022 that National All Dairy Breeds Youth Camp will be held in Waikato and planning is well underway.

Judging is an important part of any Breed Society and Holstein Friesian NZ is no exception. Judges are monitored annually through Judging Schools held around the country. In autumn, this year four judging schools were held in Waikato, Manawatu, Canterbury, and Southland. The Association believes that all judges in our breed must progress through the system, maintain a standard by attending a judging school every second year and can judge at any show. Youth and Young Breeder members are encouraged attend judging schools and work their way through the system, as soon as they are ready. Even with the lack of shows in recent years, the Association still feels that it is crucial to maintain judging standards and provide a platform for new judges.

The Black & White cow has many great attributes and is seen by many farmers as their 'Breed of Choice'. Holstein Friesian NZ will continue to work hard on behalf of all Holstein Friesian breeders around New Zealand to ensure the black and white cow is to the fore.

Cherilyn Watson General Manager Holstein Friesian NZ

Jersey NZ

Jersey NZ continues to promote and drive the growth of the Jersey breed throughout New Zealand.

Jersey NZ members enjoyed the return of A & P dairy sections in the 2020/21 season following the , Mycoplasma Bovis outbreak. The North Island Championships were held at Waikato, and due to the Covid-19 global pandemic the South Island Championship ribbons were presented as part of the Semex On Farm Jersey Challenge. The Royal Dairy Event at Stratford Show was also the highlight of the season for many members. The NZ Dairy Event was also well supported by Jersey NZ members in late January 2021.

Jersey NZ youth members also took part in the Murray Harnett Youth Judging Challenge which returned to the NZ Dairy Event. The first two placegetters represented Jersey NZ in the NZ Dairy Breeds Federation organised World Wide Sires All Breeds Young Judge Competition.

The Marcus Trotter Trophy and the Holley Geck Memorial Cup are both centred on youth showing over multiple show and were able to be held this season with the return of dairy sections. Results will be announced shortly.

Joint Jersey/Ayrshire Judging Schools took place in autumn. All Jersey judges regularly recertify.

In January 2020, Jersey NZ once again took a team of youth to compete in the International Dairy Week Youth Challenge at Shepparton in Victoria, Australia. International Dairy Week is the largest dairy show in the southern hemisphere. Defending their title from 2019, this team placed second, another great result. Due to Covid-19 this show did not proceed in 2021.

The Jersey NZ Youth Council goes from strength the strength. The Youth Council sees members revolves on a three-year cycle, and activities centre around governance training

and breed youth programmes. Several past and present Youth Council members are becoming more active in industry leadership and governance roles.

Ayrshire New Zealand

Championship shows were held this season at Waikato in the North Island and Gore in the South Island, and along with the Royal Dairy Event at Stratford and the NZ Dairy Event at Feilding were well supported by members. For the first time in it's history, the NZ Dairy Event Supreme Champion was an Ayrshire – Pukekaraka Elle Delilah owned by the Gilbert Family of Ashburton. Delilah had already won Supreme All Breeds Champion at Stratford on an earlier trip to the North Island.

The Ayrshire On Farm Competition saw even larger entries that the inaugural competition in 2019. Regional results have been announced, and National results will be announced at the Association's Annual Conference in June

The two young handler classes, the Greenlane Trophy for young handlers aged 5-12 and the Fredrickson Trophy for young handlers aged 13-25 years were contested at both the North and South Island Championships.

The Ayrshire Youth Achiever Competition was retired recently, and for the 202/21 season replaced with the Ayrshire Young Breeders Heifer Competition. Youth members in four age group classes choose a heifer for the season. Depending on the age group, there are then activity and/or ranking calculations that take place during the season. This competition has recently closed, and results will be announced at the Annual Conference.

Ayrshire NZ youth members also took part in the Arran Trophy for the Ayrshire Young Judge Competition at the NZ Dairy Event, with the first two placegetters representing Ayrshire New Zealand in the NZ Dairy Breeds Federation organised World Wide Sires All Breeds Young Judge Competition.

Joint Jersey/Ayrshire Judging Schools took place in autumn. All Ayrshire judges regularly recertify.

New Zealand Milking Shorthorn Assn

Championship Shows took place at Waikato A & P Show in the North Island and South Otago A & P Show in the South Island. New Milking Shorthorn judges are able to certify at any of the other breed Judging Schools, and existing judges are also encouraged to recertify.

Sheep Breed Matters – Chair to pass to lan Stevenson.

20. Minutes

Notes of the Sheep Breeds Meeting held on 22 June 2019, as circulated in Gazette No. 218 (2019), pages 50-54.

Moved: That the Sheep Breeds Annual Minutes of 22 June 2019, as circulated be approved as a true and correct record. G Timms / D Timms CARRIED

21. Matters arising from the Minutes not elsewhere in the agenda. No matters arising.

22. Chairman's Report – to be received.

It is hard to believe that in the period June 2019 to June 2020 New Zealand's sheep numbers dropped by 800,000. So now we have a government and a high percentage of the urban population who are quite happy see productive sheep and beef farms sold to overseas interests with no questions asked to plant in pine trees which will never be harvested, and the carbon credits taken overseas to offset the carbon of the dirty businesses which they own! All this at the expense of one of the best food proteins in the world grass fed red meat.

Bearing the drop in sheep numbers in mind the sheep seedstock ram breeders face an interesting challenge. For the drop in ewe numbers in that twelve-month period the commercial sheep farmers require in the vicinity of 4,500 less rams!

As I mentioned in last year's report the showing of pedigree sheep at A & P shows continues to decline. Partly because of the fact of less rams required and that ram breeding continues to evolve with the advancement in sheep breeding science now identifying the sheep with production far above the average. Ram breeders on the whole probably stand to gain a bigger marketing advantage by putting on a stud display at an A & P show than winning first prize when there is only two exhibitors. The public also find more interest in the display of individual sheep studs than trying to get into rows of sheep pens with the pushchair!

Local A & P shows in sheep areas might be surprised in the interest of ram breeders to display their sheep in an area of the grounds if someone is keen enough to approach them with the concept.

Unfortunately, the National Ewe Hogget never eventuated this year for a variety of reasons.

At local and regional levels in some areas hogget two tooth competitions receive very good entries and are keenly contested. This is probably the way these competitions will stay as the logistics the judges time and the travel cost of judging national finals have become prohibitive.

The Golden Fleece competition suffered the same fate and was cancelled this year. This competition in my mind should be staged in conjunction with an A & P show which has large wool entries. A couple of shows come to mind and probably either one of them would do a good job of staging this national event as part of their normal wool show.

Sheep will remain an important part of New Zealand agriculture for the foreseeable future as sheep meat will become an elite meat, fine wool demand will exceed production and strong wool with the science at the moment will be used for production of biodegradable plastic, a food protein source as well as pharmaceutical products and other amazing things.

To cap it all off it will be proven that extensive sheep farming is 100% carbon neutral. **Moved: That the Sheep Breeds Chairperson's Annual Report be received. I Stevenson / P Saunders CARRIED**

23. Sheep Breed Society Reports – see page 40.

Breed Society delegates have all been asked for a one-page written report to be tabled with the agendas. While additional comments welcome to existing reports, no full verbal reports to be tabled at conference.

- Black & Coloured Sheep Assn received
- Cheviot Sheep Society -G Timms – Sheep going well, more demand for the breed.

- NZ Romney Sheep Breeders no report.
- NZ Sheep Breeders Assn

I Stevenson - 29 Breeds included in Association. Currently celebrating 125 years. Celebrations started at Wanaka Show and will finish at the Canterbury Show this year. Some breed tours were cancelled due to COVID - now getting back to meeting up in person. Special individual Breed Trophies being presented at Canterbury Show in November.

- NZ Southdown Sheep Society M Jebson – Tough year selling rams due to drought and other farming pressures. Breed Tour held in Southland. Shows have been well supported by the breed.
- Perendale Sheep Society received
 Moved: That the tabled Annual Reports from affiliated Sheep Breeds, be received. M Jebson / P Sanders
 CARRIED
- 24. Royal Show Schedule Sheep Section As part of the Strategic Business Review all schedules will be reviewed.

RAS President – Individual working groups will be looking at Royal Shows, Royal Events and Breed Schedules. Once the review has been completed, expressions of interest will be called upon for a Royal Show.

25. NZ Ewe Hogget Competition - last report tabled in Gazette 217 (2019).

2019 competition, breed finalists were:

Fine Wools - Andrew & Lynnore Templeton, Middlemarch & Iain & Jacelyn Wright, Hawarden

Coopworth - Claire Garrett, Springston & Kevin McCallum, Winton. Composite - Stuart & Jo Fraser, Hawarden & Trevor & Karen Humphries, Lumsden. Crossbred - Raymond & Janet Harre, Piopio & Graeme & Elspeth Gardyne, Gore. Perendale - Allan & Leeann Woodrow, Gore.

Romney - Brian & Anna Coogan, Taihape & Owen & Tim Evans, Gore. **The overall winner** - Brian & Anna Coogan.

2020 competition was cancelled.

Chair – competition currently in abeyance, due to lack of volunteers and sponsors. Local Shows are running regional competitions which are well supported.

26. Golden Fleece Exhibition – last report tabled in Gazette 217 (2019). Exhibitions for 2020 and 2021 were cancelled.

Chair – this competition needs revisiting. It needs to change its name and be rebranded, and a brief discussion was had at the Wanaka Show. The competition needs a permanent home at a Show that have large entries and it will bring in other entries. Wanaka is now the biggest Merino Sheep Show – also receives a good public attendance. The competition needs to be more than a special event than going out on a cold May night to see a display. Other sections within the Golden Fleece need to hold separate events, at a venue where they have strong competition.

The Chair read out the following from Martin Paterson (Upper Clutha A&P)

The Upper Clutha A & P Show seeks the endorsement of the RAS, to hold exclusively the National Fine Wool Fleece Competition annually (the Golden Fleece), in conjunction with its annual Show. This proposal to be put to the Royal Ag Society A G M, in Wellington, on Friday 18 June.

WANAKA SHOW, WOOL SECTION PROPOSAL

To hold a National Fine Wool Fleece Competition, annually in conjunction with the show. To be held in the Wanaka Show Wool Pavilion, during the Wanaka Show.

The Competition to be run by the Wanaka Show Wool Committee. Entries of - Merino, Polwarth, Corriedale and Halfbred - Stud and Flock Fleeces only, and to discontinue Strong Wool and Black and Coloured fleece entries, at the Wanaka Show. Entries rules/conditions to be the same as in the present Wanaka Show Schedule. To be judged as per the RAS Judging Schedule for Stud and Flock Fleeces. To have the same classes as presently used in the Wanaka Show Wool Schedule. To have -Supreme Fleece of Show, Supreme Stud, Supreme Flock and Class Champions.

The Competition to be self funding. The 3 Supreme Awards of \$500 each, to be funded by Sponsorships. The Class champions and placings, to be funded by entry fees. Special Trophies /Cups/Shields (except the 'Geoff Pittaway Trophy') are winnable by all entrants, irrespective of where the entrants live. The RAS National Golden Fleece Competition, since being held in Wanaka, has been losing entries, and has not been held for the last two years. It is at risk of losing its public and entrants, profile, and support, to the point of losing sponsorship. When held for the two years in Wanaka as a standalone event/competition, it ran at a financial loss. Few organisations today can afford to run events/competitions at a loss. Looking forward, it is unsustainable to continue the RAS Golden Fleece Competition in its present format, and so needs to be held in conjunction with another complementary event, like an A & P Show. With the large attendance of the Wanaka Show it would greatly increase its exposure. A Strong Wool Competition could be run by another A&P Show. This proposal has been canvased by Martin Paterson with full support of the Wanaka Show Wool Committee and with present show entrants, and many stud and flock entrants in other shows, including the Golden Fleece. Also, most wool brokers and wool judges, with not one negative response. At the RAS Southern Districts AGM, in Wanaka, on 8 May 2021, the concept of the proposal was discussed with Brent Snellex, President of the R A S with a favourable response, and received a unanimous vote from the meeting. This proposal is complementary to the Wanaka Show becoming the National Merino Sheep Show, for New Zealand. Martin Paterson, Wanaka Show Wool Committee, 10-7-2021

RAS President – A decision cannot be made today as it has not been an agended item for members to give feedback. It needs to have a group of people from respective breeds within the exhibition to discuss this new proposition. Need to look at all components within this exhibition and form a working group of passionate people to see the exhibition is run and moved forward.

J Huddleston – Central Otago Association are happy to host the Strong Wool competition within their Show Day.

M Jebson – No spokesperson at this meeting from the Alpaca section to voice any comments today – they need to be represented, as they are looking at larger entries for future exhibitions.

F Howie – Wanaka is conscious of maintaining a competition for everyone.

K Worthington – Mohair Society would be keen to be involved in discussions too.

Chair – If we do not move now then we will not have a competition at Wanaka in March 2022.

C Roberts – As involved with the Perendale Sheep Society, more than happy to convene a ZOOM call with representation from all components of the Golden Fleece Exhibition to discuss the new proposition that has been tabled.

Moved: That the meeting accept Wanaka's offer of hosting a Golden Fleece Fine Wool competition and a Working Group be formed to look at the

other components of the competition and organise separate competitions. I Tippett / F Howie

RAS President – The motion cannot be put as Wanaka's information has not been made available to our members and a snap decision cannot be made today.

G Smith – You cannot let meeting members present make these decisions at conference without engaging the movement. Relevant information has not been made available to our members.

Chair – You do not have time to contact everyone, as Wanaka Show needs to get underway and start organising it for their 2022 Show.

RAS CEO – As long as due diligence has been done seeking feedback through the Member Societies and exhibitors, a recommendation can be made to UBS and RAS Executive for consideration - Survey Monkey can be put out, asking for feedback.

Amendment to Motion

MOVED: Recommend that the UBS look at Wanaka's offer of hosting a Fine Wool Golden Fleece competition and a Working Group look at the components within the competition. I Tippett / R Hall

Motion was put and CARRIED

Original Motion was WITHDRAWN

27. Any other Sheep Breed Matters

PORTFOLIOS

B McRobbie – Why should the Equestrian have a voice on the main executive and yet other Breeds do not?

RAS President – Executive looked at the components in 2019 in consultation with the districts. Other Breeds are included within the current Portfolios. Equestrian has a strong focus with its own portfolio but will take on board the comments that have been made.

RAS CEO – Equestrian is a mix of Breed Societies and then other competitors who do not belong to any Breed Society. RAS train and maintain a list of RAS equestrian judges and set minimum equestrian schedules whereas the Beef, Sheep and Dairy Breeds set their own schedules and train their judges.

COMPETITIONS - COMMUNICATION

J Kelly – Concerned at the comment from top table 'that hopefully the UBS meeting won't take time.' Southern think there should be a Royal Equestrian Society not a Royal Agricultural Society. RAS needs to look at ways of increasing the Beef, Dairy and Sheep entries at Shows, as they are dwindling. More national wide competitions are needed. There is a need to have a Royal Show in the South Island – we need to say that this is what the RAS is doing for us.

M Jebson – Show Connect (Newsletter) is sent out to Show Administrators but from the feedback received it does not seem to be forwarded on to their members. Associations and Societies need to ensure information is being forwarded on to their committees and members. Contributions are welcome from Shows/Breed Societies/Events to be included in 'Show Connect' to promote your Show or inform others what is happening within your Show/District/Breed Society etc.

MBOVIS

B McRobbie – Concern with what MBovis has done to the Showing movement, and if another outbreak occurs what will happen? A letter was sent regarding this.

UBS Chair – Received the letter, but the shutting of Cook Strait was not a decision that could be made by this committee. It would have far reaching effects.

RAS President – MPI monitor MBovis closely and will continue to do so, ensuring that movement of animals are controlled.

B Powell - Checks and balances are in place with MBovis. 25 units a day go across on the Cook Strait Ferry. Milk check is also in place.

K Brewer – If your farm is placed on Notice no animals can leave unless they go to the Works. Trucks and farms go under strict protocols. Paperwork is paramount. All animals are scanned when they go on to the truck. Closing of Cook Strait was not viable. Recommend to all that NAIT records are kept up to date.

ROYAL SHOW

R Walker – One intention with the Working Group will be to discuss the Royal Show and Royal Event – at least one Royal Show and discussing the challenges of hosting same.

M Jebson – Hawarden A&P Assn are holding a Sheep Royal Event at their March 2022 Show.

P Sanders – Mackenzie A&P Society are holding a Sheep Royal Event in April 2023. RAS CEO – Stratford Assn have applied for Dairy Royal Event – approved; Central

Otago have applied for Home Industries – approved.

M Davis – Why are we putting a Royal Show in one area, instead of putting the Royal status in to an area where you receive large entries. Concern that Royal Shows are being held that do not have large entries in some sections.

B McRobbie – Holding a Royal Show at one place year after year is inhibiting. The Royal Show should be the pinnacle event, not Horse of the Year.

C O'Connor – Just need a Show to put up their hand to run such a section.

C Mason – Possibly future strategies have been discussed with Steve Bramley. Need to spend time to see how it is to work in the future and look at the options but need to place our energy in working through the Review first.

G Smith – People need to advocate their responsibility of the organisation – the success of the RAS depends on the ownership of the organisation, not the Executive.

G Timms – Has there been any discussions with Canterbury A&P to see if they would come back and run a Royal Show?

RAS President – Replied that future discussions will be held but like all Shows, they have had concerns at running their Annual Show recently due to COVID.

I Stevenson – Any proposal by the RAS Executive to the Canterbury Board will be looked at.

COMPETITIONS

R Hall – Discussions need to be had with commercial farmers outside the organisations to be involved with competitions.

RAS CEO reiterated former comments. The Strategic Review will look at all components and this included membership and entries.

28. Election of Sheep Breeds Chairperson – one nomination received for lan Stevenson.

Nominated by: Merino Breed Society & Dorset Down Society This is duly noted in the AGM meeting pages 47-48.

Sheep Breed Reports

Black & Coloured Sheep

Again. our membership remains static although exhibitor numbers seem to be declining in the North Island.

Mid Canterbury , South Canterbury Waitaki Branches now probably have the most exhibitors.

At the recent Feature Show hosted by the MacKenzie A & P 70 sheep were put up for our two judges. A pity some shows appear to be trying to cut our section back in class numbers when we are often the largest section in the Sheep Section.

Unfortunately, due to Covid in 2020 there was no Golden Fleece Competition to showcase our fleeces and nothing again this year.

Perendale Sheep

It gives me great pleasure to present the annual report of the Perendale Sheep Society.

What a year it has been, we have gone through lockdowns, partial lockdowns, level changes that make travel nearly impossible to recently having international travel bubbles.

All of this has at times made it difficult for your council to meet and action the business of the society. We started the year with the first ever online AGM of our society. This was unprecedented but considered to have been a success. Following on from this we have had several council meetings on zoom, and it appears at times we have issues with internet connections so we have returned to having some council meetings in person.

Last year the Christchurch show was cancelled due to Covid, So I took the opportunity to travel up to Te Kuiti to visit the North Island Ram Fair and the Profit family's sale the day after. It was great to catch up with fellow breeders at the sales and to see a great line up of Perendales.

As in past years the Perendale breed has been very well represented at shows and sales around the country. It is by working together that we keep the breed going forward.

Council is investigating a change to our advertising platform and looking at trialling a move to digital marketing instead of producing a magazine. This will reduce costs a little but will need buy in from members to keep content flowing. Currently we only have a few members contributing to our Facebook page - it would be great to see all members sharing a few photos or a short video of what they are doing.

This year council has started to undertake a review of the Society's Constitution and Rulebook, as we make the draft of this available to members in the next few months, we would appreciate feedback on this. It is our intention that the revised edition will be forwarded to members, with the final version voted on at the next 2022 Annual General Meeting.

Thank you. Warren Ayers – President

Chair to pass to Ben Burgess.

29. Other Breed Reports – see pages 42.

Llama Association – received Mohair -K Worthington – Prices holding internationally, two Warehouses in NZ are optimistic. NZ Alpaca – no report. NZ Boer Goat – no report. NZ Kennel Club - not currently a financial member. NZ Pig Association – no report. NZ Sheep Dog Trials – no report. Rare Breeds Association – no report.

Equestrian Meeting

H McLeod – reported from Equestrian Meeting.

- Golden Horse want to increase classes in their schedule.

- Pinto and Standardbred have requested to have add a Breed Section Column on the Horse/Pony ID Form (Height Certificate) for their wins.

Moved: That the Annual Reports from affiliated Breed Societies listed above, be received.

B Burgess / K Allison

CARRIED

30. Alpaca Letter – pages 43-44.

M Fleming – Outlined recent discussions. Costs for TB Testing for their members are too high. Current rule is that movement of animals need to be tested. AsureQuality currently undertaking testing of Alpacas. Alpacas are sent overseas, and countries are ensuring that animals are tested before leaving NZ. The system is working and there have been no outbreaks recently. Society is currently working with OSPRI for a suitable outcome.

RAS CEO – Showing Rules & Regulations, Rule 99 needs to be looked at - the Alpaca Society would like to change this rule.

M Fleming – Suggest that status quo remains and wait for further information.

31. Standard Schedule of Breed Classes for A&P and Royal Shows (other than beef, dairy & sheep) - As part of the Strategic Business Review all schedules will be reviewed.

RAS President – Individual working groups will be looking at Royal Shows, Royal Events and Breed Schedules. Once the review has been completed, expressions of interest will be called upon for a Royal Show.

32. RAS of NZ Young Judge's Finals – cancelled for the 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial year. The Oxford A&P Show hosted the finals for 2021/2022 financial year and the results were as follows.
Dairy Young Judge of the Year – Holly Powell
Dairy Parader of the Year – Kimberley Simmons
Beef Judge of the Year – Lisa Bonenkamp
Beef Parader of the Year – Cara Doggett
Sheep Young Judge of the Year – Caitlin Rhodes
Merino Fleece Young Judge of the Year – Sophie Ridd

G Smith – Young Judges should be given an opportunity to participate in the Working Group.

I Tippett – Some Young Judges would like to participate in the Australian final in Ekka (Brisbane Royal Show) in Australia – is this the list?

RAS President – No, they are different.

M Jebson – Vote of thanks tabled to Oxford A&P Association for running an excellent competition at the Show in April 2021.

33. Any other matters

H McLeod – Equestrian Meetings looked at a rule around Whisker Trimming, and a Concussion or Fall Card.

34. Election of Chair – one nomination received for Ben Burgess Nominated by: NZ Hereford & the RAS President This is duly noted in the AGM meeting, pages 47-48.

Other Breed Reports

NZ Llama Association

Covid lockdowns gave many of us more time to spend with our llamas, which I am sure they appreciated.

After a decline in recent years, it was encouraging to see membership increase from 18 to 33, it is also encouraging that many of these are new llama owners. Our challenge will be to maintain the relevance of NZLA to all members.

After Jacky Middleton put in a lot of work, the only in person llama show planned at Amuri in March was cancelled at the last minute due to a change in Covid levels.

We took advantage of the availability of international judges to hold a Virtual Llama Show in November, it was judged on the weekend of 14th November by a panel consisting of Jim Krowka and Mark Smith from USA and Naomi Woodham from NZ. Scores were averaged to come up with the results. Scores were very tight at the top with only 2 points separating the top 5 and Champion pipping Reserve by only 0.17 of a point.

24 entries were received from 5 people, 3 others intended to enter, but the weather made filming hard. 9 Llama Studs were represented.

It is hoped there will be support for more shows of this type, as it overcomes the problem of lack of transport and the distance between llama farms, plus the small number of accredited llama judges in NZ.

Judy Webby



13 April 2021

Debbie Cameron Chief Executive Officer Royal Agricultural & Pastoral Society P O Box 54 Woodend North Canterbury

Bob Phillips President c/o Alpaca Association New Zealand P.O. Box 6348 Upper Riccarton Christchurch 8442

Dear Debbie,

Reference: Amendment to the RAS Show Rule 99 Alpacas

The AANZ have reviewed the current RAS 99 which currently refers to the Alpaca and Llama Association. This joint reference is no longer appropriate as both associations are managed under their individual rules and regulations.

The AANZ recognises the significant work undertaken by OSPRI and TBFREE NZ in their drive to eradicate Tb in New Zealand. Recent proposed changes by OSPRI to current Tb testing regimes, has provided the AANZ with an opportunity to revise our current voluntary Tb testing protocols. The following table demonstrates the new protocol that is in line with cattle and deer testing (where required) and which takes effect immediately:

TB Free Current Disease Control Areas (As per OSPRI Map – Feb 2021)	Updated AANZ Voluntary Whole Herd Testing Frequency	Alpaca Age to be Tested
Surveillance Area Risk-based Testing Schedules Biennial Testing	5 Yearly Testing	24 Months and Over
Annual Testing	Biennial Testing	24 Months and Over
Movement Control Area (MCA) Pre-Movement Testing plus Annual Testing	60 Day Pre-Movement Testing plus Annual Testing	12 Months and Over

The above protocol will apply to the situations below as a minimum requirement:

Alpacas entered and attending A&P and AANZ run shows.

- Breeders involved in exporting alpacas overseas where a veterinarian declaration is required for confirming that farms supplying export animals have been free of Tb during the 3 years prior to alpacas being exported.
- Movement of alpacas between alpaca farms that require Tb free status for the above situations. Therefore, if agisting females or stud males from another farm, confirmation of a whole herd Tb test would be required by both the breeder agisting these animals and the breeder bringing these alpacas for agistment. This would include males carrying out short term mobile matings with females from another breeder.

The AANZ appreciates the importance of our continued relationship and look forward to working with the RAS in the future.

Yours sincerely

Bob Phillips President Alpaca Association NZ

0274 320 357

RAS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CHANCELLOR 1

Sunday 20 June 2021

- 1. President's Welcome: **Brent Snellex**
- 2. **Debbie Cameron** Secretary for Meeting:
- 3. Apologies: Shona Addison, Tryphena Carter, Garry Dodd, Marie Fitzpatrick, Hilary Grigg, Sally Jackson, Vicki Jagersma, John Jebson, Paula McIraith. Moved: Apologies be accepted. P Worthington/M Jebson CARRIED

Obituaries 4.

Northern District: Mrs.Linzi Jobbitt, Ms. Fiona King, Mr. Roddy West, Ms. Jan Hopkins Mid Northern District:

Eastern District: Mr. Jim & Mrs. Barbie Heard, Mrs. Rose Tweedie, Mrs. Gwyneth Fairbrother

Western District: Mr. Ian McCormick, Mrs. Molly Kroon, Mr. Fred Gorton, Mr. Keith Bennett, Mr. Rod Polton, Mrs. Melda Gibson, Mr. David Law, Mrs. Molly Akers Central District: Mrs. Julie Adamson, Mr. Peter Fleming, Mr. Noel Wood, Mrs. Margaret Salkeld, Mr. Arnold van Asch, Mrs. Felicity Nubley Southern District: Mr. Charles Albert (Bert) Bell, Mrs. Donna Smith.

A minute's silence was held to acknowledge the obituaries.

5. Minutes of the RAS Annual General Meeting

Held 22 June 2019, as circulated in Gazette No 218 (2019), pages 57-61. Moved: The minutes of the 22 June 2019 be approved as a true and accurate record. G Smith/M Fleming.

CARRIED

- 6. Matters arising from those minutes
- 7. Notice of any Item to be discussed under General Business, not on this Agenda.

B McRobbie – nomination of Executive.

- 8. **President's Report** Report as per Gazette No.219 (2020) and Gazette No 220 (2021), to be received and/or adopted, as necessary. Moved: President's report be taken as read and adopted. B Snellex/C O'Connor. CARRIED
- 9. Treasurer's Report

Annual Report and Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended March 31, 2020, and 2021 as per Gazette No. 219 (2020) and Gazette No. 220 (2021) respectively.

Sponsorship Equestrian Youth - \$0.00 Sponsorship/Fund Raising Youth Activities - \$0.00 M McKerrow acknowledged and apologised for some minor errors within 2021 report hence the two overlays in the hard copy reports. The report on the RAS website is the correct copy. The suggested re-wording came via the auditor which reinforces the strength of having a quality audit and auditor.

This financial year has been a difficult one for all - uncertainty around income therefore steps were taken to cut back the expenses. The share portfolio had not ben reviewed in some time, so a review was undertaken. While the PGG Wrightson shares had been written off, the rest of the portfolio had shown a good return. The decision around the Strategic Review coincided nicely with the share review and selling the shares paid for Stage 1 of the Strategic Business Review.

Moved: Treasurer's report be adopted. **M McKerrow/P Worthington**

CARRIED

The matter of uncollected equestrian levies was discussed at the equestrian meeting. Shows must pass on levies collected and levies are applied across all equestrian sections (reference rule EEFSL 1 b). Some shows are either not collecting or not passing on the levies. The Executive are tasked with applying the rules. If the integrity of the A&P is brought into disrepute that is their business. However, when it links to the RAS it becomes the business of the RAS and Executive. The RAS treasurer asked for a mandate from the meeting to follow up any outstanding levies.

Moved: The meeting charge the Executive to enforce the current rule and to take the necessary steps to follow up any outstanding levies. M McKerrow/P Worthington.

CARRIED

Question as to whether the levies are showing in the current revenue stream and whether the amount outstanding is significant? No, on both counts.

Question – B McRobbie asked for clarification around district rebates not being paid out to the end of the season as this is not what had been reported at the Mid Northern AGM. M McKerrow replied that he had qualified his remark at the AGM and when all information was available the decision had been made (and reported in the treasurer's report) not to pay out until the end of the season.

M Mulligan thanked M McKerrow for his efforts, a treasurer's role is never an easy one.

10. Honorary Life Membership Nominations Nomination for Mr. John Grigg - The citation, page 51, was read by Melissa Jebson and the motion put. Moved: G Smith/M Jebson. CARRIED

RAS President, Brent Snellex presented John with his Honorary Life Member's badge along with the RAS Gold Medal.

Mr. John Grigg thanked the members and said it was a privilege and an honour to be recognised in this way. He had put his heart and soul into his time with the organisation and always concentrated on the points of discussion rather than personalities. He certainly utilised this to good effect when dealing with bureaucratic red tape surrounding the Incorporated Societies discussion. He had enjoyed conference and meeting the members again. He applauded the work being done and hoped it would result in the Royal Agricultural Society being around for another 100 years plus.

11. Election of Officers

Patron – Right Honourable Dame Patsy Reddy. Current Patron for her term as Governor General. Noted term coming to an end in October and the new governor General will be Dame Cindy Kiro.
President – Current term remains for Mr. B Snellex.
Vice President – Current term remains for Ms. Rachel Walker.
Tabled and noted.

12. Election of Executive – 3 positions available, 4 nominations received.

Mrs. Maria Barta Nominee 1 – Mrs. Jackie Kelly, Life Member Nominee 2 - Palmerston/Waihemo A&P

Mr. Malcolm McKerrow Nominee 1 - Hawkes Bay A&P Nominee 2 – Mrs. Chris Mason, Hon. Life Member

Ms. Cara O'Connor retired by rotation. Ms. O'Connor offered herself for re-election. Nominee 1 - Mr. Brent Snellex, RAS President Nominee 2 - Mrs. Melissa Jebson, RAS Executive Member

Mr. Alan Windle Nominee 1 – Upper Clutha A&P Nominee 2 – Lake County A&P

As per 7.4 (e), the RAS Executive resolved to hold a postal ballot for the election of the Executive as per 7.4 (f). The Executive have nominated an independent scrutineer and the votes will be counted by the Chief Executive in their presence. The results will be reported at conference.

RAS President announced the successful candidates as being Maria Barta, Malcolm McKerrow, and Cara O'Connor. Executive badges were presented to all three. Congratulations to all parties.

Election of Horse Steward's Council Executive Chairperson – current term remains for Ms. Helena McLeod. Measuring Convenor – nomination for Ms. Stephani Mann. Nominee 1 - NZ Carriage Society. Nominee 2 – Mrs. Wendy Collin, Eastern District Chair. There being no other nominations, Ms. Mann is duly elected. Clean Sport Convenor – current term remains for Mrs. Maxine Mulligan. Judge's Convenor – no nominations received.

Election of UBS Council Executive

Chairperson – nomination for Mr. Ben Burgess
Nominee 1 - NZ Hereford Society
Nominee 2 – Mr. Brent Snellex, RAS President
There being no other nominations, Mr. Burgess is duly elected.
Beef Breeds Chair – current term remains for Mr. Mark Fleming
Dairy Breeds Chair – current term remains for Mr. Kelly Allison
Sheep Breeds Chair – nomination for Mr. Ian Stevenson
Nominee 1 - Merino Breed Society
Nominee 2 – Dorset Down Society
There being no other nominations, Mr. Stevenson is duly elected.

Equestrian Breeds Chair – nomination for Mrs. Diane Chesmar Nominee 1 - NZ Standardbred Association Nominee 2 – NZ Pinto Society There being no other nominations, Mrs. Chesmar is duly elected.

Tabled and noted. Congratulations to all parties elected.

- Appointment of Auditor
 The Executive recommends that the AGM agree to appoint Ashton Wheelan & Hegan
 as auditors for the 2021/2022 year.
 Moved: The auditors for 2021/22 year be Ashton, Wheelans & Hegan.
 M McKerrow/G Smith.
 CARRIED
- 14. Review of any levies/fees
 - 14.1 Measuring Fees the RAS Executive resolved to hold any CPI increase for this season however, fees will be reviewed for the 2022/23 season.
 - 14.2 Equestrian levy the RAS Executive resolved to hold any increase for this season however, fees will be reviewed for the 2022/23 season.
 - 14.3 A&P Association/Events Membership Fee the RAS Executive resolved to hold any increase for this season however, fees will be reviewed for the 2022/23 season.
 - 14.4 Breed/Kindred Society Membership Fee the RAS Executive resolved to hold any increase for this season however, fees will be reviewed for the 2022/23 season.

14.1 -14.4 tabled and noted.

- 15. Consideration of any Notices of Motion, Business or Proposed Resolution of which notice has been given. None tabled.
- 16. Discussion on recommendations from Equestrian Meeting or United Breed Society Meeting. No further discussion.
- 17. Report on remits none received due to Strategic Review being undertaken at present. Tabled and noted.
- 18. Acknowledgement of Service Achievement Awards

2020 District Service Awards (already presented) Northern – Mid Northern -Eastern – Mr. Max Morton Western – Central -Southern – Mr. William Mitchell

<u>2021 District Service Awards</u> (already presented) Northern – Mid Northern -Eastern - Western – Mr. Alan Windle Central -Southern –

19. General Business

19.1 Brought through from discussions last year – suggest conference is held at Wellington and Christchurch on alternate years.

Rationale: In most situations this will mean one flight for conference delegates and accordingly be more economical.

This is a suggestion for delegates to consider and to be brought back to the table next year.

S Rutherford, on behalf of Central District, invited delegates to attend conference in Christchurch next year.

- 19.2 B McRobbie raised the matter of why his nomination was not accepted for the Executive when portfolios were no longer the basis of the elections. B Snellex replied that he had already had this discussion with B McRobbie at the time nominations were being called for. Despite portfolios being withdrawn from the election basis, it had been clearly signalled the Executive were seeking skills based members, who would be required to oversee a portfolio, there is even a view that perhaps there should be some independents included as well. B Snellex had asked B McRobbie to consider whether he was suited for the Executive or one of the Working Groups to be established. (B McRobbie chose to withdraw his nomination for the Executive.)
- 19.3 D Scott advised it had been a constructive day yesterday and requested a recap on some of the points around the Working Groups.

Community Hubs (Rachel Walker) – where an organisation has facilities or assets, sharing ideas to be able to utilise these to their full extent. Short term group.

People (Rachel Walker) – likely a group that will continue for some time. Initially concentrating on working with volunteers, provide some examples of job descriptions, basic training material for the members.

Event & Business Optimisation (Malcolm McKerrow) – firstly concentrating on the event side of things, how to measure the success of the event, set up mentoring group to assist A&P's, identify and run two (2) case studies that are struggling.

Digital Optimisation (Brent Snellex) – currently only has 3 people but has been approached by S Rutherford, K Russell & F Howie since S Bramley's presentation. This is a major challenge and will be a matter of scoping and determining what we need.

All the above groups welcome further interest.

Equestrian Review Committee (Cara O'Connor) – 7 applications received, all accepted. Good cross section of people including competitors, judges, show convenors and breeders. First zoom call has occurred to meet and greet and establish common ground and principles. Digital optimisation features strongly. Survey monkey will be a key tool.

Other Working Groups to be established – Royal Show/Events, Golden Fleece, Rural Ambassador, Young Judges, Next Generation.

- 19.4 Various R Hall raised the following:
 - People do not connect A&P's and RAS why is not referred to as RAPS?

- Why run Rural Ambassador at conference? If it were run separately they could attend all parts of conference.
- Needs more time, conference could be extended to include sharing of ideas, "chewing the fat" as referred to in Southern (M McKerrow raised the point the reason conference is run the way it is, is because members already say it is too expensive).
- > How do we get the Breed Societies involved?
- Why is conference on at the same time as the Field Days? Considering RAS represents Rural Excellence shouldn't we be there? (B Snellex advised Field Days had changed their date.)
- Paid up life member but not able to vote through the postal vote system (B Snellex advised the post ballot had been utilised as it was important COVID did not prevent an election process for the Executive).

Meeting closed at 12.10pm.

Citation for Mr John. Grigg

John Grigg is a fifth-generation farmer from Hororata and runs an 844ha mixed cropping and sheep farm. His involvement with the Royal Agricultural Society has been across all levels – local, district and national.

John joined the Canterbury A&P Show Committee in 1990 after being nominated by Mr Roddy McKenzie. Initially he was on the sheep committee but then moved to the horse committee and served many years as ringmaster. In 2010, John was the President of the Canterbury A&P Association.

In 1994, John was encouraged to attend his first national RAS Conference by Chris Wright, where John was elected South Island Vice Chairman of the RAS Horse Stewards Council. He went on to become the chairman in 1999.

In 1996, John joined the RAS Central District Council as a councillor. He served three terms including time as the chairman of their equestrian committee as well as the District Chair. He was also the convenor of the FMG Rural Excellence Award (in commemoration of A.C Cameron) within the Tasman area from 1999 – 2003.

John has always been a forward thinker and prepared to make changes for the betterment of any organisation he supports. He was instrumental in preparing the RAS Equestrian Rulebook along with fellow committee members Barbie Heard, Pat Dobbin, Nicky Hutchinson, and Kevin Cholmondeley-Smith. The preparation of the equestrian rules took two years - 1998 and 1999. In 2000, at the RAS Conference in Auckland the rulebook was tabled and adopted by the members. The rulebook continues to be at the heart of our current equestrian showing competition.

John also assisted in the development of the modern Equestrian Performance Card which was accepted at the Queenstown Conference in 2002. A modified version of this card is still used by our equestrian exhibitors today.

In 2004, John was elected on to the RAS Executive. He served two terms as an Executive member and in 2010 was elected as the RAS Vice President. In 2013 John became the President of the Royal Agricultural Society and he served until 2016. During his time as President, John worked with representatives of the NZ Government to ensure the RAS retained the 1908 A&P Act. The A&P Act is the founding document for the Showing Sector and its importance cannot be underestimated.

It has been the intention of the current Executive to put John forward for Honorary Life Membership for the last few years however life never seems to work out as expected. Last year COVID put paid to any plans, so the Executive are delighted to have the opportunity this year to put forward the nomination. Mr. Geoff Smith Immediate Past President nominates John and I, Mrs. M Jebson, am honoured to second that nomination.

"Mrs. Hilary Grigg could not be with us today, and offers her apologies but she is wholly with you from the other side of the world", Mrs. M Jebson.