



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STUD
MERINO
SHEEPBREEDERS'

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting

of the South Australian Stud Merino Sheepbreeders' Association will be held on **Tuesday 3 September 2024** commencing at **6.00pm**. Location: upstairs Board Room in the Heavy Horse Pavilion,
Royal Adelaide Showgrounds

AGM Minutes

Meeting Opened at 6:10pm

Attendees:

Matt Ashby (President), Robert Sullivan (Vice President) Leonie Mills (Treasurer), Joe Dahlitz Tracey Dahlitz, , Peter Meyer, Ian Michael, Brett Koehler, Tom Ashby, Stephen Kellock, Bronte Blyth, John Daniel, Margaret Daniel, David Rowett and Lin Cowling (Executive Officer)

Apologies:

Justin Boughen, Kayla Starkey, Geoff Davidson, Ian Rowett, Nick Wadlow, Justin Lines, Jayden Harris, Wes Daniel, Stephen Koehler, Ian Koch, James Sullivan.

Attendees asked to sign the attendance register.

Welcome and Vale

The Chairman, Matt Ashby, welcomed attendees and called for attendees to stand for a minute's silence to acknowledge the passing of deceased members of the Association.

1. Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting.

M. Ashby asked attendees if they had read the Minutes from the 2023 Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 5 September 2023. A raise of hands indicated that all had read minutes prior to commencement of the meeting.

Motion:

It is proposed that the minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting be confirmed as an accurate record of the business of the meeting, with the amendments made above.

Moved: P. Meyer

Seconded: S. Kellock

.....Carried

Matters arising from the previous Minutes:- Nil

2. President's Report

M. Ashby read and tendered his President's report on the activities of the Association during 2023 - 2024.

M. Ashby pointed out that the Ram sales and commercial sheep sales have been tricky with results reflecting the challenging season with minimal rainfall over most of South Australia. The sheep meat market suffered a blow due to the Labor Federal Government announcing a ban on the live sheep export trade out of WA. Merino SA have invested considerable time supporting WA in rallying against the decision. Representatives from Merino SA, G. Davidson and J. Dahlitz will attend the next rally in Canberra on 10 September 24. The wool market continues to remain stable. The 2023 Adelaide Ram Sale continues to hold its title of the most successful Merino and Poll Merino multi-vendor Ram Sale in Australia, even though entries were down slightly from the previous year. Merino SA has worked closely with the Regional Merino Field days which has been well supported. SA breeders have represented the state well, winning interstate shows with major prizes being awarded. Congratulations to G. Davidson who is now current President of Australian Association Stud Merino Breeders. We wish him well in this role. The 2024 Ram selling season has presented mixed results with several studs having pleasing results and others' not so. Thank you to Matthew Fiebig, who is retiring, for his contribution, which has been invaluable, towards the committee. We welcome Matthew Lehmann onto the committee and look forward to having a good working relationship with him. Thank you to L. Mills for her continued commitment as Treasurer and for keeping Merino SA Financials in order. Thank you to R. Sullivan for his back up support as Vice President. My appreciation is extended to the hard-working Committee and Sub-committees for their passion and dedication throughout the two years of my time as Merino SA President. A special thank you to L. Cowling EO for her time and energy invested into Merino SA along with her professional conduct towards the role. Thank you to all Merino SA Members, supporters and sponsors for their belief in the amazing Merino industry and wish for a better than average end of 2024 for all.

Motion:

It is proposed that the 2023-24 President's Report be accepted.

Moved: M. Ashby

Seconded: I. Michael

Carried

President's Report attached.

3. Treasurer's Report

Leonie Mills provided the Treasurer's report regarding the finances of the Association during 2023 - 2024.

L Mills stated the 2022 Financials have now been audited but 2023 and 2024 still need to be completed, but they will be assessed as a review only without the drill down level of an audit. This will be completed shortly and then 2024/2025 financials will be audited and presented at the next AGM. The report presented is only a Treasurers' workings:-

- The Trading income in 2024 was \$334,528.
- The Operating expenses in 2024 were \$243,815.

- The profit for 2024 was \$90,713.
- The Cheque Account balance as at 30 June 24 was \$126,957.84.
- The Financial Summary as of 30 June 2024 was \$390,110.49.

a. The significant Inputs and Outputs were:

- Adelaide Ram Sale inputs - \$13,957
- Adelaide Ram Sale outputs - \$15,548
- Annual Directory inputs - \$79,362.50
- Annual Directory outputs - \$40,160.04
- Member subscriptions - \$57,935.38
- Promotional Levy \$39,566.23.
- Promotion and Publicity - \$12,164.34

L Mills stated that in summary The Finance Committee budgeted for an approximate profit of \$36K for 23/24. The actual profit was \$90,713. This was mainly due to invoices that had been missed sending in Feb 2023 had been paid for in 2024 and two sponsorship payments arrived in the same year. We had just over \$4k of interest accrued from Rabobank. Two Term deposits had been rolled into one at low interest rates but are now back as two at a higher rate. Annual Directory costs came in under budget by \$5K. For 2024/2025 the Finance Committee have budgeted for a deficit of approx. \$4,900. Sponsorship from Elders is now totally allocated to the regional field days. There will be 2 payments for SESMBA showing in 2025 Financials. Without this occurring we would have been showing a profit for \$7K budgeted.

Treasurer's Report attached.

Motion:

It is proposed that the 2023-2024 Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: L Mills.

Seconded: P. Meyer.

.....
Carried.

Motion:

It is proposed that The Association appoint Australian Independent Audit Services as its auditor for 2024-2025.

Moved: L Mills,

Seconded: R. Sullivan.

.....
Carried.

4. Annual Subscription and Promotion Levy

Motion:

It is proposed that the Membership Subscription Fees and Promotional Levy for 2024-25 be increased by no more than 5% at the discretion of the Finance Committee. The committee is recommending that no changes are made but will advise in due course.

Moved: L Mills,

Seconded: J. Dahlitz.

.....
Carried.

5. Election of Management Committee and Office Bearers

M. Ashby vacated the position of Chairman and P. Meyer undertook the role of Chair for Election Proceedings and thanked the Management Committee for their

contribution. He declared all positions vacant.

Management Committee Election:

The following six nominations were received for six positions on the 2024-2025 and 2025- 2026 Management Committee:

- Mr. M. Ashby
- Mr. P. Meyer
- Mrs. L. Mills
- Mr. S. Kellock
- Mr. G. Davidson

There being no other nominations, the above-mentioned members are elected unopposed for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.

The following Committee Member has given notice to retire – Mr. M. Fiebig
A late nomination was received from Mr. M. Lehmann

There being no other nominations Mr. M. Lehmann was elected unopposed for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.

Nominations for President:

P. Myer called for nominations for the Office of President of Merino SA for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 term.

I. Michael nominated R. Sullivan. There being no other nominations R. Sullivan was declared President for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.

.....
Carried.

Nominations for Vice-President:

P. Meyer called for nominations for the Office of Vice President of Merino SA for the 2024-2025 term.

J. Dahlitz nominated M. Ashby

There being no other nominations received. M. Ashby declared Vice President for 2024-2025

.....
Carried.

Nominations for Treasurer:

P. Meyer called for nominations for the Office of Treasurer of Merino SA for 2024-2025.

S. Kellock nominated L Mills for Treasurer.

There being no other nominations received. L. Mills was declared Treasurer for 2024-2025

.....
Carried.

R. Sullivan took over as new President and congratulated M. Ashby as out going President and stated that it had been a pleasure to have worked along side him as Vice President and looking forward to continuing the good working relationship into the future.

6. Membership Movement

Resignations:- Dalveen June 2023, Yanta September 2023, Woolumbool November 2023 & East Bungaree May 2024.

Retirement of Merino Studs Only:- Blackford, Bradfield, Pindari, The Snuggery, Wirrilla Run & White River.

New Studs:- Greenfields Karalee May 2024.

Change of Ownership:- Roemahkita added CD Watson & Co as joint owners.

7. Any Other Business

- **Adelaide Ram Sale** – T. Ashby proposed that at the upcoming management meeting, we should discuss strategies to increase entries for the Adelaide Ram Sale and address the declining numbers. We recognize the event’s success and aim to maintain its high standards. It might be beneficial to involve both agents in exploring the available options. J. Dahlitz stated that perhaps consideration should be given to inviting more agents not just the traditional two.
- **Royal Adelaide Show Entries** - J. Dahlitz requested a review of the entrance rules to make them more accommodating for studs, suggesting that the closing dates be revamped.

T. Ashby mentioned that if Merino SA has issues, they should send a letter outlining their concerns to the pastoral committee.

Prize Money: It was noted that the prize money needs a review. The third-place prize should at least equal the entry fee, with second and first places being significantly higher. Discussions with agents will be necessary.

Separate Meeting: There was a suggestion to hold a separate meeting with the agents, and the Adelaide Show, SA Ram Sale, and Exports Panel Sub-Committee. Possibly look at either dates 1 or 4 October in the Merino SA Office. EO to send out notification as soon as possible.

P. Meyer agreed that the entire entry system for the show needs an overhaul.

B. Koehler stated that the timing and cut-off dates for entries should be revamped, and any alterations requested should be considered.

- **Keep The Sheep Rally** – G. Davidson and J. Dahlitz are to be representing Merino SA at the Rally scheduled for Tuesday 10 September 2024. More promotion is encouraged and would like to see as many as possible attending.

8. Next Meeting

To coincide with the Royal Adelaide Show 2025. (Tuesday 2 September 2025)

Meeting Closed at 6.50 pm.

Signed Date:-.....
Robert Sullivan
President