

ILR Show Division

FLEECE COMMITTEE Minutes

Meeting Date: January 15, 2017, 5:00 PM, PST

Committee Members: Niki Kuklenski (Chair), Linda Hayes, Maryan Baker, Eran McCarty, Barb Baker, Betty Moe

CALL TO ORDER: 5:08 PM, PST

Present: Niki Kuklenski, Eran McCarty, Barb Baker, Betty Moe

Absent: Linda Hayes, Maryan Baker

MINUTES: All Minutes from 2016 have been submitted and posted to the ILR website

AGENDA:

Old Business

1. Education:

- a. Danish System: Niki states that Susan Hannah, in the ILR office, will be responsible for ordering new ribbons. Niki has requested a current inventory.
- b. Judges' Test: Barb and Eran have submitted questions to Maryan for inclusion on the test; more are still needed! Niki will coordinate and finish this project ASAP

New Business

1. As Maryan Baker was unavailable for the meeting, Barb Baker agreed to be acting Secretary
2. If we are going to re-submit our recommendations for changes, it must be done ASAP or we will have to start fresh for 2018
3. Education Projects: still pending
4. New Committee member: Discussion on adding a new member and all agreed it was necessary; we would hope to have a strong broad-based geographical representation. We will submit possible candidates to the Board for appointment. At this time we have representation from Washington, Oregon, Ohio, Colorado and Indiana. There are no representatives from the East or South.

5. Program Change: Discussion on Annualized Weight. Eran McCarty states that she is in favor of keeping it as a tie-breaker since density is a positive trait. It was brought up that it is difficult to use AW when both minis and standard size llama fleeces are in the same class; both can have excellent density, but due to its smaller size, the mini will not have the weight. Betty Moe is in agreement with both Eran and Debi's comments. Niki also reported on a conversation with an alpaca breeder who told her that it is still hard in alpaca fleece shows to be consistent with AW due to the differences in cutting styles, timing of shearing as well as the geographical location.

Eran made the following motion, seconded by Betty: "The Annualized Weight Chart should be removed from the Shorn Fleece judging scorecard and used only as a tie-breaker." This would be shown in The Guidelines under tie breakers "Fineness, Hand, Luster and Higher Annualized Weight" and be taught in our education program for fleece. Motion carried and the recommendation will be made.

6. The committee discussed a letter received from a fleece exhibitor with concerns about a judge at an SD show. With our comments included, the letter was forwarded to the Judges Committee with the recommendation that a letter be sent from that committee.

7. There was a discussion of the ongoing harassment and defamation of the committee by an ILR sanctioned judge and instructor. The overall feeling of the committee is that something needs to be done. This ongoing negativity is not helping anyone and is causing rift in the llama community, not to mention damaging the ILR-SD.

The committee is feeling disrespected by both the ILR Governing Board and this individual as virtually anything they work on or propose, is met with negative resistance and turned down. In 2016 the committee easily worked 15-20 hours on concerns that were submitted, feedback on the fleece judges test that requested changes to the current program and more. Between the harassment and public defaming by this individual, it has been presenting a negative image to a committee who has worked tirelessly on behalf of everyone. The committee had everything they requested and submitted in 2016 unfairly criticized and declined. We as a committee would like to point out that no decision we make is taken lightly and they are made for the betterment of the ILR-SD, fiber community and our industry as a whole. Our sole goal is to promote llama fiber with a realistic judging format and help people be successful in their sales of it.

Next Meeting: TBD

Adjournment: Niki adjourned meeting at 6:14PM, PST