



BOARD MINUTES

5 April 2020

Present: Carlice Cutright, Caryn DeRochie, Greg Dike, Tim Hardy, Brad Peterson, Erin Powell

Absent: Grant Pound (Director), Ruth Higdon

Visitors: Sonja Cutright, Robert Stuplich, Una Taylor,

Visitors and Board members had difficulty joining the meeting since Zoom is now requiring a password, and no one had a password. This issue will be resolved before the next meeting

The minutes of the March 8, 2020 Board meeting were unanimously approved. (Hardy, Cutright)

The letter to members being written by Hardy and Petersen regarding possible congenital defects is to be approved by the Board before being sent to the members.

The difficulty of having Board meetings on Sunday was discussed. The Board will try meeting on either the first or second Wednesday of each month. The revised schedule will begin May 2020.

Three NWSS 2021 committees offered reports.

The Fiber Committee's report is attached to these minutes.

The Committee on halter events made the following initial suggestions for changes for NWSS 2021:

- 1) The Masquerade Event should make itself known out of the stockyards in the main section of NWSS,
- 2) For Reserve Grand Champion Awards the second place yak in the class of the Grand Champion will be allowed to enter the ring as a potential awardee,
- 3) The Obstacle should not be a competitive event, if there is a tie for High Point Champion, co-championships should be awarded.
- 4) A sketch and description of the obstacle course will be offered far in advance, no measurements will be given,
- 5) The number of classes in the halter show should possibly be reduced depending on attendance.

The Publicity Committee made the following suggestions:

- 1) NWSS email/website teasers should begin in June/July. Board members are asked to start getting things ready NOW.
- 2) Fiber exhibits in NWSS barns on the hill should include yak fiber. This needs to be explored ASAP by contacting Erin Dorsey. (It is unclear who is to explore this.)
- 3) USYAKS should proactively educate the public about yak fiber. Fencepost was mentioned as one vehicle for this.
- 4) Carlice Cutright will contact Cinde Moore about Frontier Days in Cheyenne.
- 5) Brenda Winter, Una Taylor, Tim Hardy will explore having a presence at Laramie's Higher Ground Fair.
- 6) Perhaps USYAKS can join with the alpaca association(s) for advertising fiber.



- 7) Announce Fiber Arts guidelines well in advance to spur entries from ranches not bringing yaks

The Board endorsed the idea of having USYAKS certify yak meat and designing a label or a medallion that can be incorporated into a label to this effect. The technical aspects of this will be explored by Zhi-ba Shing-ga and Hay Springs.

Agenda Items for May Board meeting:

Greg's Report on UK study on feed.

Report of Pen Committee

Possible updated reports from Fiber Committee, Halter Committee, Publicity Committee

USDA labels and "USYAKS Certified Yak Meat" update

Website update plans

Director position

Marketing updates

Membership database

Agenda Items for June Board meeting:

Day 1 NWSS schedule

Day 2 NWSS schedule

Day 3 NWSS schedule

Dissemination of initial NWSS 2021 teasers

Hardy will email Rob Williams' manuscript chapter regarding NWSS 2020 to the Board.

This is the report of the Fiber Committee -

NWSS USYAKS FIBER SHOW 2021

❖ General Information

➤ Criteria for Entry

- Deadline: When should this be?
- Judging should be anonymous for all classes and categories
- Entries must be brought to the fiber tent/pen on Thursday in order to be included in display
- Entries for fiber arts must include a description of item on a 3 x 5 card (fiber arts)
 - ◆ What the fiber is (100% yak or if it's a blend)
 - ◆ Whether it's hand spun or mill spun
 - ◆ Method of creation (knit/crocheted, hook/needles, loom, etc.)

➤ Ribbons for on-the-animal and for fiber arts

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- Three ribbons in each class/category?
- Option for a “People’s Choice” or “Honorable Mention”? (probably just for fiber arts)
- Grand Champion/Reserve Grand Champion
- Schedule
 - Friday Morning: Fiber Arts judging
 - Friday Afternoon: Fiber collection (beginning at noon or one?)
 - Friday Afternoon/Saturday/Sunday: Fiber and Fiber Arts Display for public
- Entry Fees
 - On-the-animal
 - \$15 per animal
 - Fiber Arts items
 - \$15 per item for people who don’t bring animals
 - \$5 per item for people who do bring animals
- ❖ **Fiber on the Animal**
 - Classes
 - Under a year
 - Over a year
 - Rules & Regs
 - No grooming products are to be used on the animal prior to fiber judging.
 - The judge will be the only one collecting fiber
 - Owners will not be permitted to collect fiber
 - Yaks must be haltered and tied for collection
 - Limit number of people in the pen for fiber collection (judge(s), yak owner, one assistant)
- ❖ **Fiber Arts Categories**
 - Wearable Items
 - Knit/Crochet
 - Felting
 - Weaving
 - Utilitarian Items (home goods, etc.)
 - Knit/Crochet
 - Felting
 - Weaving
 - Yarns
 - Should be displayed in like manner, i.e., preferably as a hank – not in a ball or twisted into a skein
 - Mill spun versus hand spun
 - Spinnable fiber
 - Roving (loose or in bumps)
 - Batt
 - Pre-felted batt
 - Rolag
- ❖ **Budget**
 - **Costs**
 - Judge or judges

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- I support having two judges for now for reasons which I will outline in a separate document
- Ways to mitigate costs
 - ◆ If two judges, then they could room together to save on hotel
 - ◆ If Kat judges, maybe we could carpool
- Hotel/Transportation/Meals for judge or judges
 - Perhaps judges could pay for their own meals with the exception of the banquet/dinner
- Materials (baggies, markers, etc.), ribbons?
- Display set up
 - Tim & Una would lend use of canopy tent for fiber display if needed
 - Does anyone have some kind of vertical display materials?
- **Income**
 - Entry fees for fiber
 - Stock Show registrations
 - Sales?
 - Should USYAKS take a percentage of profit from sales??
- ❖ **PREPARATORY TASKS**
 - Gather needed materials
 - Tables/chairs/display/tent
 - Baggies/pens/scoresheets/3 x 5 cards
 - Combs
 - Coordinate with registration for anonymous entry numbers/IDs
 - How can this be done?
 - Each ranch needs an anonymous identification “number”
 - Each animal needs its own ID
 - Each fiber entry needs to include its ranch ID
 - All information and requirements concerning fiber show submission to the appropriate person for inclusion on the USYAKS website for stock show registration
 - Creation of a system for record keeping for product sales
- ❖ **TASKS & RESPONSIBILITIES AT THE SHOW**
 - Thursday
 - Fiber Booth/Pen Set-up
 - Judge work table and paraphernalia
 - Collect and organize entries
 - Fiber and Fiber Arts display for judging Friday morning
 - Friday afternoon
 - Assist with fiber collection
 - Re-set up fiber arts after morning judging for public display and purchase in the afternoon
 - Saturday
 - Set up ribbon display for all fiber categories in tent/pen
 - People to oversee tent for public and product purchases
 - Ribbon awarding at dinner
 - Sunday
 - Morning: continue public display
 - People can take their stuff as needed for departure



- Take-down of the tent/booth
- Go home!