



shown in the database. I think the AABMGS should make clear, in the database, that the database is a record of the information provided to the AABMGS and that the database's accuracy depends on the accuracy of the information provided to the AABMGS.

Justification: Having a flexible policy on DNA testing allows members to have full DNA verification of animals they are registering if they wish, so that those members who DNA-test their line of goats are at no disadvantage in the market for tested % and full blood goats. Equally, those who are happy to trust a particular breeder, or to sell their animals without DNA testing are not forced to go through the DNA-testing process, or are not penalised where testing is not possible.

Once, the new breeds become readily available, production, appearance and show performance of the individual animal and its more immediate relatives should become more important than being able to DNA verify a line of descent from the original imported embryos and semen.

Tom moved that the proposal be accepted, Paul seconded and the meeting agreed

**#2 Height verification** and whether there is a need to height verify small imported breeds. There is a general aim to reduce the height of our animals. Over height animals are discouraged from being used for breeding. The AABMGS Inc. uses a generation system not an ABC grading system and as such an animal will not be affected by the height of a deceased parent not being submitted, nor that of a sold or unlocatable animal. Our heights are a guide for breeding purposes. For show purposes there are enforced heights and a show steward measures the animals on the day. There are five generations of breeding needed to reach Purebred status. This was discussed further. Members are encouraged to submit yearly heights, for recording on database.

**#3 Purebred or Fullblood Imported Goats**

Paul discussed the commercial and trade implications associated with recognising animals as Purebred not Fullblood. At what level does a perfect breed specimen get recognised as a fullblood animal. This is a generation issue and as the breed progresses this will need to be addressed.

**#4 The Silky Goat Breed Standard**

The meeting agreed that the breed standard presented to the meeting, with minor amendments to the breed name be accepted. Moved Therese Purton Seconded Allan Purton Agreed

**#5 AABMGS Web Site**

Samantha is to continue with her work on upgrading and refreshing the web site. Anyone wanting content added, is to submit it to the executive for approval and this will then be passed on to Samantha.

Samantha noted the need for a stand-alone web site for the Miniature Sheep, with a link to this page on the goat page and vice versa. Agreed.

**#6 Australian Miniature Goat Show Height Review**

Therese Moved that the tabled heights for the Australian Miniature Goats be accepted as the show standard, with the exception of the Christmas Show, where the foundation heights will be accepted.

Current

Suggestions

Under 3 months

Change to under 6 months

Does not to exceed 50cm

Bucks not to exceed 50cm

3 months to 6 months Does not to exceed 50cm Bucks not to exceed 50cm	Change to under 6 months
6 months to 12 months Does not to exceed 53.5cm Bucks not to exceed 54.5cm	Leave as is Leave as is
12 months to 24 months Does not to exceed 57cm Bucks not to exceed 60.5cm	Leave as is 58.5cm
24 months to 36 months Does not to exceed 60cm Bucks not to exceed 62.5cm	58cm 60.5cm
36 months to 48 months Does not to exceed 61.5cm Bucks not to exceed 64.5cm	59cm 62.5cm
4 years and over Does not to exceed 63.5cm Bucks not to exceed 65.5cm	60cm 63.5cm
Seconded Samantha Dulfer	Agreed

It was noted that at most shows our Australian Miniature Goats were coming in well under height.

#### **#7 Showing of Australian Champion Titled Goats**

The meeting heard of the difficulty of new goats obtaining the title of Australian Champion if they are being shown against an already titled goat. It was also agreed that a goat should not be excluded from shows simply because it has reached Australian Champion status.

The meeting agreed on a new show category; Ultimate Champion Goat.

This category will place the Australian Champion titled goats against the goat awarded Supreme champion for that show. As more Australian Champions are titled, this category will open up to more goats. Moved Tom                      Seconded Samantha                      Agreed

**#8 Show Shirts** are being reviewed and Therese is to continue to look at options.

#### **#9 Review of Show Rules**

Discussion was held in relation to the need for our Society to be more presentable in the show ring and the need for show etiquette. Samantha is going to review the show rules and put a proposal together and come back to the Committee. In the interim, Show Stewards will approach the judge prior to the commencement of the show to discuss how the judge likes to run their show.

Interaction with exhibitors, asking and answering questions etc. This information will be relayed to the exhibitors before the first class.

A new Class of Best Presented to be introduced to shows.

Moved Therese                      Seconded Samantha                      Agreed

#### **#10 Disbudding Animals for Show purposes**

The pros and cons of disbudding animals was discussed at length. It was mentioned that in some breeds, the horns form part of the breed standard. It was agreed that if a standard breed allows for horns, the miniature breed should do the same.

It was decided that more discussion was needed and a Special Meeting to discuss horns will be arranged for the near future.

#### **#11 Approval of New Members**

The Membership Officer will email all new Membership applications to the Committee for consideration, prior to accepting as a member.

#### **#12 Request for changes to be made to Pedigrees**

Peter and Sue Buchmann have request significant changes to be made to 3 of their goats registrations. The Goats were registered in 2016, upon transfer of ownership. They have apparently bought the goats back and want the pedigrees adjusted, including the name of the Dams. The Registrar has compared the Pedigrees with the documentation provided at the time of registration and the information matches.

The meeting expressed a concern over this request and setting a precedent and the legalities of such a request. In light of the period of time that has elapsed the meeting has requested proof of parentage for the goats. E.g. DNA testing results, Statutory Declaration.

#### **#13 Request made to provide a list of goats**

Peter and Sue Buchmann have requested a list of all goats registered under their stud name. Registration papers have been supplied for these animals when registered. It was acknowledged that some of these animals will have been sold and the registration papers provided to the new owners. Our rights and obligations in relation to the Privacy Act and Right to Information Act were discussed. It was agreed that it is only necessary to provide a list of goats that are registered in the persons' names and not those registered to other people.

The list would be provided in due course.

#### **#14 Miniature Sheep Membership Officer, Registrar & Contact**

Therese is to undertake the role of Membership Officer for the Miniature Sheep. This will provide consistency for the miniature Sheep breeders.

#### **#15 Warning/Breach System**

A warning/breach system is to be introduced for Members in relation to providing false or misleading information in relation to the sale of goats, either to other members or the general public. Members are encouraged to raise concerns with the Committee not via public forums, such as Facebook.

A copy of the Society's Anti Bullying policy will be posted on Facebook and brought to members' attention.

#### **#16 Nigerian Dwarf Milk Test**

As the breed progresses and we move toward a Nigerian Dwarf Goat being awarded Australian Champion, the Society needs to introduce a test to ensure that the goat, as a miniature dairy breed, meets a milk production standard. This will also need to be considered for Miniature Nubians.

#### **#17 Persian Sheep**

Sharon Evans has advised the Society that they have formed a new Association, known as the Persian Sheep Society of Australia, (PSSA) however they would like to remain Members of our Society and continue to use our Registry. They have requested that any new registrations be sent to the Persian Sheep Society for verification, before the registration is accepted by our group.

Information about the Persian Sheep Society of Australia (PSSA) and an updated Persian Sheep Breed Standard has been provided for our website. Mention was made of the rarity of the breed and the need to ensure its authenticity. Meeting agreed to this request.

**#18 Rare Breeds Trust**

Contact is to be made with the Rare Breeds Trust, so that they are aware of our work in preserving rare breeds of sheep and goats such as the Australian Bush Goat, Elf Goat, Silky Goat.

**#19 Rare Breeds Trust Liaison Person**

Sophie expressed a desire to work with the Rare Breed Trust and the Persian Sheep Society to bring the two groups together and add a personal touch. The meeting supported this offer.

**#20 CAE End Date for testing**

Glenda sought endorsement from the meeting to take a proposal in relation to CAE testing to the Department of Agriculture. Glenda spoke on the extensive research she has undertaken into CAE and believes there needs to be a definitive test introduced and an end date to the requirement for testing. An example was given of a stud that had been testing for 40 years, had never had a goat test positive, being required to continue with testing. The meeting endorsed this request.

**#21 Shared Lunches**

Meeting agreed that Gracie would continue to organise the shared lunches for meetings and shows. Thank you Gracie.

**#22 Sponsorship for Shows**

Gracie to continue to source sponsorship for local shows. Members need to be encouraged to help promote and seek donations and sponsorships whenever the opportunity arises.

**#23 Kalbar Show**

The Kalbar show is coming quickly and some details are still need to be finalised. Negotiations are to continue and members are to be advised.

**#24 Judges Course**

A Judges Course is being organised and details in relation to a judge's handbook, requirements for cadets and judging criteria for different breeds needs to be organised. External catering is to be arranged for this course.

President Kevin thanked everyone for their input and attendance and declared the meeting closed at 2.50pm.

President.....