

THE GOLDEN SHEARS WORLD COUNCIL

Minutes of the Golden Shears World Council

Held at the Boardroom, Ingliston House, Royal Highland Centre, Scotland

Wednesday 21st June 2023 at 9.00am

PRESENT

George Graham	Chairman
Colin MacGregor	Vice-Chairman (Northern Hemisphere)
Alan Derryman	Secretary / Treasurer
Johnny Fraser	Liaison Officer
David Lawrence	Sports Shear
Tom Kelly	AUSTRALIA
Andrew Barratt	Royal Bath & West of England Society
Richard Schofield	ENGLAND
Julie Resneau	Associations des Tondeurs de Moutons,
Lucie Fraucher	FRANCE
Stefanie Kauschus	Verein Deutscher Schafscherer e. V.
Nico Wohlfarth	GERMANY
Ronnie King	Golden Shears, Masterton
David Fagan	NEW ZEALAND
John Murphy	Royal Ulster Agricultural Society
David O'Neill	NORTHERN IRELAND
Eirik Kolbjørnshus	Norwegian Sheep Shearers Society
Sven Reierson	NORWAY
Eleri V Roberts	
James Radcliff	ISLE OF MAN
Tom Dunne	National Sheep Shearers Association
Billy Donnellan	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
Andrew Rankin	Royal Highland Agricultural Society
Bruce Lang	SCOTLAND
Jasper Cloete	Sheep Shearing Federation
Isak Klopper	SOUTH AFRICA

Joseba Attard Association Espanola de Esquiladores de Ovejas
Jaime Colera Casonan SPAIN

Loren Opstedahl American Sheep Shearers Council
Kathleen Markiewicz UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Nicky Beynon Royal Welsh Agricultural Society
Ray Davies WALES

Hamish Mitchell Shearing Representative (Northern Hemisphere)
Allan Oldfield Shearing Representative (Southern Hemisphere)
Jayne Harkness-Bones Wool Handling Representative (Northern Hemisphere)
Keryn Herbert Wool Handling Representative (Southern Hemisphere)

Edwin O'Hara On zoom

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the beautiful city of Edinburgh and thanked all involved in hosting the World Championships and wished everyone success. Bruce Lang, Chairman of the Host Committee, welcomed all to Scotland and acknowledged the undertaking in hosting the championships.

A minute silence was held on memory of Elliot Nsombo, Ian Mowat, Donald Frazer, Alison McNeil, Shamus Brannock and Koro Mullins.

2 APOLOGIES

Philip Morrison – Vice Chairman (Southern Hemisphere)
Bernie Walker - Honorary Life Member

3 REQUESTS FOR VOTING BY PROXY OR POST

There were no requests.

4 TO RECEIVE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman referred to his written report which all Members had received and asked that the report be accepted.

The Report was received and adopted, proposed by Isak Klopper, seconded by Richard Schofield and is attached to these minutes.

5 APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP TO GOLDEN SHEARS WORLD COUNCIL

There were no membership applications.

6 MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of the Golden Shears World Council held at the Reception Room, Le Dorat Town Hall, Le Dorat, France on Wednesday 3rd July 2019, having been circulated

previously, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Ray Davies, seconded by Hamish Mitchell.

7 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes not covered later in the agenda.

8 PARTICIPANTS FORUM REPORT

The Chairman had attended the Participants Forum held the previous night and had been elected as Chairman; proposed by Hamish Mitchell, seconded by Andrew Corrigan.

Feedback from the meeting included:

- Thanks for the training day
- There had been issues with tickets and accommodation
- There were concerns that teams were not in one place
- There were no lockers available for gear
- There had been no blade expert at the training day

Competitors Representatives elected were:

Hamish Mitchell	Shearing Representative (Northern Hemisphere)
Allan Oldfield	Shearing Representative (Southern Hemisphere)
Jayne Harkness-Bones	Wool Handling Representative(Northern Hemisphere)
Keryn Herbert	Wool handling Representative (Southern Hemisphere)

Hamish Mitchell and Ffion Jones were also elected to sit on the disputes committee.

9 AMENDMENTS & ADDITIONS TO THE GOLDEN SHEARS CONSTITUTION

i) Membership – Membership – Rule 6 (a)

Submission from Executive.

Agreed that wording will be amended to read, “When hosting a World Championship the host nation Member shall have the full rights of the Golden Shears logo.”.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT ACCEPTED. All in agreement.

ii) Meetings – World Council – Rule 15 (g)

Submission from Executive.

After discussion, it was agreed that the numbers would be amended to read, “The World Competitors to be entitled to elect five representatives with voting rights to attend the World Council Meeting. Representatives to consist of one machine shearer representative from each hemisphere, one woolhandling representative from each hemisphere and one blade shearer representative. They will stay in place for the next World Championships.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT ACCEPTED. All in agreement.

iii) MEETINGS – Executive Committee - Rule 16 a) ii)

Submission from Executive.

Agreed to correct numbers to reflect the executive members and the wording will read, "The quorum for the Executive shall be three quarters of the existing Members of the Executive."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT ACCEPTED. All in agreement.

iv) World Championships – Rule 20 (c)

Submission from Executive.

Agreed to delete the wording "in exceptional circumstances" rather than delete the rule, so that this reads, "No country shall be permitted to enter more than one team."; as the current level of support from countries removed the likelihood to require more than one team from any country.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT ACCEPTED. All in agreement.

v) World Championships – Rule 26 (b)

Submission from Executive.

Agreed to align with other timelines set at four months, the wording to read, "Nominations for the positions of Officers of the Council shall be made in writing to the Secretary no less than four months prior to an official World Council Meeting."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT ACCEPTED. All in agreement.

vi) Funds – Rule 29

Submission from Executive.

Agreed to include the wording "electronic payments" to the rule, which will read, "No monies shall be paid out except by cheque or electronic payment, authorised by a Minute of the Executive Committee provided always that the Executive Committee may provide the Secretary with a petty cash account in which case the Secretary shall at all meetings of the Executive Committee furnish an itemised amount of all monies spent from such petty cash account."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT ACCEPTED. All in agreement.

10 TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO GOLDEN SHEARS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

i) Programme - Rule 4

Submission from Executive

It was agreed to leave the regulation the same but where possible the host would have quarter finals

This motion was CARRIED.

ii) Country Specifics - Rule 8

Submission from the Executive

The Secretary explained that the rule stating that notification of country specifics have to be submitted 6 months , would be better at 4 months so everything had same deadline.

This motion was CARRIED.

11 TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE GOLDEN SHEARS INTERNATIONAL SHEEP SHEARING & WORLD WOOL HANDLING CHAMPIONSHIPS RULES

There were no submissions.

Ray Davies raised concern regarding the change to blade shearing rule 4. All were agreed that the Executive had handled this change appropriately.

12 TO CONSIDER A BID TO HOST GOLDEN SHEARS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

i) Submission from New Zealand

Ronnie King and Mavis presented a video and spoke to present a bid to host the 2026 Golden Shears World Championships.

ii) Expression of Interest from Falklands

There was no representative in attendance at the meeting and no details to present.

The meeting voted for the next championships to be held at in New Zealand.

13 APPLICATIONS TO HOST THE GOLDEN SHEARS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2029

Dave Lawrence informed the meeting of a possible bid from Australia and Ray Davies advised that the Royal Welsh Show would be expressing an interest to host in Wales in 2029.

14 TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL REPORT & FIX ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

A financial report for the period 2019 / 2023 was presented to the Council showing a current credit balance of £10,634.80. (Copy of accounts attached).

The Treasurer moved that this report be accepted - AGREED.

i) AGREED for each Member to pay the subscription in a Golden Shears World Championship year, rather than an annual subscription.

ii) AGREED to amend reference to an annual subscription for the wording in the Constitution Membership Rule 4 b) iii and 6 b) Probationary Membership as well as Finance Rule 24.

15 TO CONSIDER THE PAYMENT TO THE HOST COUNTRY OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The meeting discussed the proposal to increase the amount paid to the host country of the World Championships and it was agreed to no longer offer any amount as the host country would cover their costs. It was agreed that the money should be used to cover the costs of administration including upgrading the Zoom account to facilitate longer meetings

16 VENUE FOR SECRETARIAT

AGREED to accept the offer of The Royal Bath & West of England Society to provide the secretariat for the Golden Shears World Council.

17 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of Chairman:

Nomination for George Graham (Northern Hemisphere) from New Zealand

George Graham was formally proposed and seconded for office of Chairman.

AGREED that George Graham be elected Chairman.

Election of Vice-Chairman:

Nominations were received for:

Philip Morrison (Southern Hemisphere) nominated by New Zealand

Colin MacGregor (Northern Hemisphere) nominated by England

Colin MacGregor and Philip Morrison was formally proposed and seconded for office of Vice-Chairman.

AGREED that Colin MacGregor be elected Vice-Chairman (Northern Hemisphere) and Philip Morrison be elected Vice-Chairman (Southern Hemisphere).

Election of Secretary / Treasurer:

Nomination for Alan Derryman (Northern Hemisphere) from England

Alan Derryman was formally proposed and seconded for office of Secretary/Treasurer.

AGREED that Alan Derryman be elected Secretary/Treasurer.

18 TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING A WOMEN'S EVENT

Sven Reiersen, Norway, gave a presentation to the meeting to host a women's event at future world championships. Following discussion, all were agreed that host nations would be encouraged to hold a women's event when hosting the world championships.

19 TO CONSIDER FUTURE NEW MEMBERSHIP AND ELIGIBILITY

Joseba Attard, Spain, made a proposal that a Basque country could become a member and would be able to send a team under their own right. The Chairman agreed that this is a valid request and it would be possible to join as a World Council member.

20 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Criteria for Competing Countries

A discussion took place about the criteria for a country to enter the World Championships. It was agreed that the Executive would agree the wording. Host nations can consider the criteria for competing countries and decline an application to compete.

Competitor Representatives

The Secretary reminded Competitor Representatives that they must inform the Executive if they intend to step down from their role.

Future World Championships

It was confirmed that the World Championships would be held every three years so the dates would be 2026, 2029, 2032.

Test Matches

It was agreed that test matches are not required and would be considered excessive in proximity to a World Championships.

Wool Handling Final

After discussion, it was agreed six competitors would compete in the Woolhandling final. This would be a split final with three competing at a time.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It is an honour to be here in the beautiful city of Edinburgh to present my Chairman's report and to welcome you all here for the 2023 Golden Shears World Council.

As former hosts you are only too well aware that unforeseen circumstances can arise despite the best laid plans, who could have predicted a global pandemic, it certainly made planning a large scale event difficult to say the least.

I would like to congratulate Christophe Riffaud on hosting a spectacular event in 2019. For any event to be successful it takes teamwork, lots of hard work, dedication, financial commitment and hopefully a little luck on the day - all of which they had in abundance which gave rise to such a successful event. Congratulations France.

Any country willing to undertake the hosting of a Golden Shears World Championship should be clear in the understanding that it is a decision not to be taken lightly, it takes the utmost dedication and commitment and should be much more than a colourful presentation, I cannot stress this strongly enough.

At present I believe our World Council is in a very healthy state and is there in its capacity to liaise and offer advice and support to any host nation without interference. As of now we have at least one country interested in hosting the next Golden Shears World Championships and an expression of interest for 28/29.

Having hosted two Golden Shears World Championships in Ireland in the past, I know only too well the responsibility and commitment required to run such a large scale world event. Now, with up to thirty countries taking part it is a massive undertaking not only in the sheep shearing and wool handling categories but also in the administration and accommodation sector.

The cost to the host committee has amplified due to the current economic climate with accommodation being at the forefront. The week long extravaganza that we know as the Golden Shears World Shearing Championships was originally only a two day event; therefore it is dependant largely on the generosity of a huge number of passionate volunteers, without whose help we could not possibly hope to run a successful show. Thank you all.

I would also like to acknowledge the tremendous work accomplished by the full team and take this opportunity to thank my fellow executive members of the Golden Shears World Council, Vice Chairman and Liaising Officer Colin McGregor, Joint Vice Chairman Philip Morrison who is not present but to whom I extend my best wishes, Alan Derryman, Secretary and Liaising Officer, Johnny Frazier, 2nd Liaising Officer and a huge thank you to all the member countries.

I would like to extend my ongoing gratitude to our patron Laurie Keats and our life members, some who may not be present here today and to thank them for their continued support and contribution.

Finally, I would like to wish Bruce Lang, Chairman of the host committee and his entire team every success for the forthcoming and widely anticipated World Shearing and Wool Handling events. May they be triumphant in all their endeavours.

Kind Regards,
George Graham
Chairman, Golden Shears World Council

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEARS 2019 to 2023

Balance in Bank as at 19th June 2019 **£ 11,155.14**

OUTGOINGS

Website and engraving	£ 920.77
W H Darby Ltd - Medals	£1,406.54
Contribution to France	£ 500.00

TOTAL **£ 2,827.31**

INCOME by annual subscriptions

2020 £1,343.38

2023 £963.59

TOTAL **£ 2,306.97**

Spain £3.59 in credit

Australia £7.00 in credit

Arrears outstanding

France, Wales and Scotland £120.00 each

South Africa £240.00 (pay cash at meeting)

BALANCE IN BANK AS AT 9TH JUNE 2023 £ 10,634.80

Account No. 16006194 at Nat West., Liskeard

Alan Derryman, Hon. Secretary/Treasurer

June 2023