

Fullblood Simmental Fleckvieh Federation

One Breed ★ One World

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FSFF Board of Directors teleconference held December 17, 2015

to discuss the Feb 2016 Dixie National Show & review the 2015 NAILE events

Attendees: Mikell Davis, Jim Ethridge, Jason Gress, Nikki Gress, Andy Oslanski, Anne-Marie Rasch, Tony Roberts, Heathie Widicker, Glenn Wotten, and Brandy Jordan

Absent: Steve Jensen

Dr. Mikell Davis called the meeting to order at 5:39pm CST.

Nov 2015 NAILE review- Changes/Suggestions-

- Keep communication open with the ASA prior to the 2016 events to ensure we are all on the same page and to communicate our needs for assistance. Dr. Jason Gress will mention to ASA contact Chip Kemp that the ASA staff needs to have better attitudes- not all acted happy to be working there this past year (Nov 2015).
- Recruit a gate person for each show to help keep the show classes organized and timely.
- Dr. Jason Gress stated the FSFF is at a crossroads- does the FSFF want to take control of the show or continue as is (with Show Superintendent Larry Maxey)? He (Gress) has received feedback the show is unorganized. He does not feel it is because the FSFF does its own paperwork (separate from the NAILE) nor does he feel it is because there is too much for Larry to do. He stated he would like the registration & check-in processes streamlined, and he suggested the rules & regulations for the shows be put in writing.
- Anne-Marie stated originally the FSFF Coordinator was to do the NAILE registrations but that it did not work. She proposed having the registrations sent to one person and reminded the Board the NAILE shows are Larry's, not the FSFF's. She suggested posting the show rules & regulations to the FSFF website.
- Brandy Jordan suggested also including the show rules & regulations with the FSFF entry forms.
- Nikki Gress stated she thinks the NAILE shows should be the FSFF's and not Larry's. She is willing to do the registrations. Nikki stated there was a problem with the solicitation of judges too.
- Jim Ethridge mentioned the 2015 judges were better than the 2014 judges.
- Glenn Wotten said he had been to the NAILE as an exhibitor once. Stated Larry was instrumental in building the show and he feels the FSFF needs to work with Larry.
- Andy Oslanski agrees with Glenn and said Larry is important to the show.
- Heathie Widicker suggested discussing concerns with Larry & ask if he's willing to make changes to improve the shows.
- Dr. Mikell Davis stated Larry had previously initiated a conversation with him and stated he needed help. With the Board's approval, Dr. Davis will call Larry to ask how/what can be done to make 2016 better. Dr. Davis stated he would like the Board to have input to the NAILE schedule/events instead of just Larry & the NAILE staff deciding.
- **The Board agreed unanimously that Dr. Davis should call Larry to talk with him to offer assistance to better the show.**

Revise Show Premiums-

- Anne-Marie stated she does not attend as an exhibitor for the premiums and suggested the FSFF drop them. Possibly do a youth scholarship instead? She originally allocated \$5,000 in premiums in hopes of receiving matching funds from the NAILE which is now seen as unlikely. She pointed out that per the premium book, the FSFF is one of the highest paying in premiums.
- Dr. Gress agreed to the dropping of the premiums from the Pinnacle and Fleck Effect shows but wants to keep them for the Challenge Cup (Youth Show).
- Jim Ethridge mentioned there is a shortage of kids showing eligible animals in the Challenge Cup and questioned who receives the premiums- the exhibitors or the owners?
- Nikki Gress stated we need to grow the base of the junior show.
- Andy Oslanski likes the scholarship idea. Wondered if the President's Reception could serve as the funding for the scholarship?
- Heathe Widicker questioned whether the FSFF can survive if the fundraiser is only used to fund a scholarship?

- **All agreed a motion is needed to drop the premiums. Dr. Davis asked Anne-Marie to put a proposal in writing for all to review and discuss and eventually vote on. She agreed to do so & sent an email to the Board on 12/17/15 that reads as follows-**

"Hi Everyone,

Per the request of Dr Davis I am writing the board with my proposal for NAILE premiums.

I propose that premiums not be offered for the two open shows -The Pinnacle and The Fleck Effect

I suggest continuing paying premiums for the junior show - The Challenge Cup

I would also like to suggest adding a scholarship award for the grand champion winner of the Challenge Cup. The amount to be determined by the board of directors. I would further suggest that a fundraiser be held annually during the NAILE to fund the scholarship.

Please reply all in email with any comments and or suggestions.

Sincerely,

*Anne-Marie Rasch
734-358-8419"*

Meetings & Events-

- The 2015 meals in the barn were nice & we had good attendance too. Cost effective.
- Anne-Marie stated we need greater member participation at the Annual Meeting & questioned how to improve it? Discussion followed-
 - Get a good speaker?
 - Move the annual meeting to another venue (i.e. Buzzard Hollow's or Dr. Davis's sales)?
 - Dr. Davis's sale is better timed (needs to be in the fall, toward the end of the year for Board nominations, etc.).
 - While we need to have an official "annual meeting" we should also take every opportunity (at other sales/events) to meet with & inform members and to possibly also use the venue for fundraising.

- **Jim Ethridge motioned to have the 2016 FSFF annual meeting Friday night at the Magnolia Classic sale in October 2016.**
Dr. Jason Gress seconded.
Passed unanimously.

- Other ideas then included-
 - The FSFF provide a meal that same night- make the event open to all in order to better promote the FSFF
 - Have a silent auction to benefit the FSFF/FSFFjr
 - Schedule the Sullivan's Show U (youth) clinic
 - Dr. Davis would promote it in his sale catalog
 - **Dr. Davis wants more Board input and discussion on these ideas.**

Feb 2016 Dixie Nationals update-

- The Board received electronic copies of the show info/dates/etc. Dates are Feb 11-14.
- The FSFF website has been updated with the announcement & links to the forms.
- The FSFF Facebook page has been updated with the announcement.
- Becky (Brandmark Imaging) has submitted a proof of the 1st e-blast that includes info about the show/sale; Brandy will forward to the Board for approval. The sale deadline will have already passed by the time the e-blast is sent, but Dr. Davis is aware of this and wants it to go out as is (for sale awareness).
- The FSFF booth will be on display with copies of the 2016 membership directories.
- Brandy to send a constant contact to better promote the shows/sale.

At 6:41pm CST, Jim Ethridge motioned to adjourn the meeting.
Anne-Marie Rasch seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.