



NORTH AMERICAN SHAGYA-ARABIAN SOCIETY (NASS)

NASS Breeding Committee Meeting Minutes February 4, 2009

Breeding Committee met February 4, 2009, convening at 6 pm Pacific time via conference call.

Attendees: Hallie Goetz, Kathy Richkind, Kathleen Warren, Elaine Kerrigan, Linda Rudolphi, Adele Furby Chair, Jamie Buck NASS President, Carol Neubauer, Registrar.

Absent: Terry Hey, Assistant Registrar.

Old Business:

Adele suggested that for our agenda we utilize the NASS Task Tracking sheet which Jamie recently generated.

1) Stallion Performance Requirements: Elaine and Kathy

Elaine explained that she had written to all other ISG member societies to ask how they handle questions pertaining to stallion performance requirements, but did not hear back from any of them. In reviewing the Draft of the Revised Guidelines she felt that this new draft basically covered the rules which would be implemented regarding the requirements. Adele suggested that it would be a good idea to include more specifics regarding time frames and also specific rules and regulations which would be utilized for the field trials portion of the test. Elaine will prepare same for review at the next BC meeting scheduled for around 6 weeks hence.

2) Draft of Revised Guidelines for Shagya Breeding: Adele and Elaine

Adele pointed out that the BC members had had a chance to review the finalized Draft which was sent out to all BC members on January 15th, and asked for questions or comments. Following a brief discussion, it was moved and seconded to accept this Draft and present it to the NASS BOD and membership via the NASS website for review. Resolution passed unanimously. Adele pointed out that it would be a good time frame to enable to BoD to review any suggestions or comments from the membership and finalize and accept the Revised Guidelines prior to or during the next BoD meeting. This would then allow plenty of time for NASS to inform its members and the public of the updated regulations prior to the September 2009 NASS Inspection Tour.

3) NASS Registration Procedures Online: Carol, Terry, Jamie

Jamie and Carol explained that they are in the process of writing up the registration application protocol to be posted onto the NASS website. Jamie will send the written protocol to the BC for review prior to posting on the website.

4) Inspection Tour Judge Invitation: Adele

Adele stated that the NASS had not received a final answer from our invited judge at the time of the meeting, so committee discussed asking another judge. Adele wrote to our invited judge as a follow up to the meeting and did receive an affirmative answer from him within a few days of the meeting. Mr. Ahmed al Samarraie, President of ISG, has agreed to serve as our foreign judge during the dates of September 14th through September 22nd.

5) DNA typing and protocol: Kathy

Kathy reported that she continues to work with U of K and Carol Neubauer to streamline DNA procedures and reporting. It has been suggested that a new protocol be established whereby an applicant submitting a registration application to the NASS Registrar will also submit the DNA typing form, hair sample, and fee to the NASS Registrar. Then the NASS Registrar will forward the DNA form and hair sample after checking all pedigree and registration data against the NASS registry files to assure accuracy and legibility, etc.

Kathy submitted the following proposal prior to the meeting:

"In order to reduce data entry errors, expedite specimen processing , and simplify the billing procedures for the University of Kentucky lab, the following changes to the collection and shipping procedures are proposed:

DNA- Hair samples: *After the specimen is collected per the instructions on the NASS DNA collection form. The paperwork and specimen is mailed to the NASS registrar, Carol Neubauer, along with a check for \$40 made out to NASS. Carol will review the information on the form, make corrections as necessary, and forward the form and information to the UK lab. After the testing is completed, the results will be mailed to the NASS registrar; a copy of the results will be made for the horse's record, and the original results and registration papers will be issued as per the registration protocol and sent to the owner.*

Blood samples: *These specimens will need to be mailed directly to the UK lab; however a copy of the paperwork and a check for \$40 made out to NASS will be sent to the NASS registrar.*

DNA typing - stored serum specimens: *This request should be made to the NASS registrar, along with a check for \$40 made out to NASS. The registrar will forward the request to UK and receive the results from the UK. The results will be made a part of the horse's record, and the information will be used by the UK to perform the parentage testing if requested in tandem with this test (see DNA-hair samples) .*

Under this protocol, the UK lab will bill NASS for each test, not the individual owner. This is how they handle the DNA testing for most registries. This will allow our registrar to know when the DNA sample was submitted and to track the results. It will also allow her to check to make sure the information submitted is correct."

It was moved and seconded to accept this policy, and the BC unanimously voted to accept.

6) Part-Shagya showcase: Linda, Hallie, Kathleen

Following some expressed confusion on the part of the committee members as to who was spearheading this effort, Kathleen agreed to write up a more specific proposal by the next BC meeting.

7) Registration Forms Update: Terry, Jamie, Carol

Carol reported that so far she and Terry have not begun work on this project. It was requested that they work on this ASAP.

8) NASS Studbook Printing/Publication: Carol, Terry, Adele, Jamie

Kathy Richkind volunteered to join this committee, as her daughter has a new job whereby she may have access to publication technology. Kathy will ask for a quote for a limited edition hard copy of the studbook, plus CD copies. Hallie suggested that perhaps the NASS studbook could be put on line. It was agreed to continue to research such possibilities.

9) Frozen Semen: Hallie

Hallie requested that Adele send her a PDF of the draft which Adele had previously sent Hallie prior to the last meeting. This was a draft which Hallie had prepared for the previous meeting (2 meetings ago). Adele promised to do so and Hallie will present a revised draft to the BC prior to the next BC meeting for review.

10) Embryo Transfer: Hallie

Adele reported that there is no mention of a limitation on the number of foals per year which can be registered out of an individual mare via embryo transfer in the RZBO, but that the NASS Guidelines do limit to one per year. Therefore she suggested sticking with that number. It was unanimously agreed to do so. With that decision made, Hallie will present an updated draft of the embryo transfer form prior to the next BC meeting for review.

11) Updated Stallion Report Form: Jamie

Jamie presented an updated stallion report form. It was unanimously accepted.

12) Updated assignment of Breeder Designation and Transfer for Eligible but Unregistered Foal: Elaine

Elaine had sent the updated forms to the BC and they were unanimously accepted.

13) Swiss Shagya Database: Adele

Adele reported that the NASS BoD appointed Elaine as the data entry person for the NASS studbook data for the Swiss Shagya Database. Adele explained that everybody will be able to access the data, but only Elaine will have the passwords to enter the site to add more data. Protocol will be that Elaine will enter data, Bruno Furrer will serve as editor and controller, and then the data will be accessible via internet.

14) Branding Application Update: Jamie

Jamie reported having generated a revised branding application form. The protocol will remain the same, but the form has revised spacing and improved visuals. This form was unanimously accepted also.

15) Updated DNA form: Kathy

Prior to the meeting Kathy presented an updated DNA form. This form was unanimously accepted and Jamie will post along with the new protocol on the website.

At this point in the meeting Carol excused herself from the meeting due to the late hour back east.

New Business:

1) Inspection Tour Plans

Adele suggested that it will soon be time to begin more specific planning for the September inspection tour. However, first we need to firm up who will be our foreign judge and the dates. (As explained above, one week subsequent to this meeting our judge, Mr. Ahmed al Samarraie, and our dates, September 14 through 22, were confirmed).

Adele reported that so far there have not been many changes to the tentative list of horses to be inspected since the last BC meeting.

Kathy suggested that we should begin thinking about judge education programs during the tour, and she suggested that Hallie and Linda, who were learner judges at the previous inspection, could spearhead making suggestions and materials for the tour. This would include possible suggestions for training agendas. Adele suggested that they could do this through working with the Judge/Education Committee, and also that they could include some outreach work so that we would have more than just the two of them as learner judges this time around. Hallie agreed to work on this. No feedback was given by Linda, as she apparently had left the meeting some time prior to this agenda item being discussed.

Adele suggested that we need to do some outreach on eligible horses for this inspection. Some of this would be pending the acceptance of the new Guidelines for Shagya Breeding by the BOD, since more horses would qualify for breeding inspection have been according to the current Guidelines. (i.e. Part-Shagya-Arabian definition being expanded and purebred Arabian mares being eligible).

2) Committee Guidelines

Adele presented the verbiage of a Committee Guideline which had been recently passed by the NASS BoD:

A NASS Member who wishes to serve in the capacity of Officer, Board Member, Committee Chair or Committee Member should demonstrate their support of the North American Shagya-Arabian Society (NASS), and should "lead by example" by:

- **Registering with NASS all of their Shagya-bred horses which are eligible for NASS registration**
- **Actively supporting NASS Breeding Inspections by making reasonable efforts to present for their eligible horses for breeding approval.**

Adele also presented a few "food for thought" ideas which the BC might want to consider:

- a) *All committee members commit to attend all conference calls. If a BC member misses "X" number or percentage of meetings within "X" time frame (we can ponder what would be workable here) the member will be invited to step off of the committee*
- b) *All committee members will please acknowledge receipt of all e-mail correspondence from the committee chair in a timely manner (suggest within 5 days) so as to ensure that all members are staying within the communication loop at all times.*
- c) *Similar to (b), all committee members will reply to the committee chair within 5 days of the scheduled announcement of a conference call meeting whether or not the date and time is OK for that member to attend the meeting-- so that if any committee members have a conflict on that date and time the chairman can endeavor to find an alternate date and time which works for all members, (as much as is practical.)*
- d) *If a last-minute situation arises in which a committee member who had previously committed to attend a conference call has a sudden conflict and cannot attend the meeting, the committee member will make reasonable efforts ASAP to inform the chairman that he or she cannot attend the meeting after all.*

A general discussion followed:

Hallie stated that she feels that committee work should be voluntary and that not all members can put in the same amount of time and effort, but that everybody's contribution should be welcomed. And that participation on a committee shouldn't be seen as a burden. There was general consensus on this point.

Kathy expressed the opinion that it's not good to be specific about how many meetings are required to stay on a committee, but that members should make every effort to attend meetings, and once again this seemed to be the general consensus.

She also pointed out that if a committee member does take on a task, somehow they need to be accountable. Kathleen thought that the new task list would help take care of some of that.

Jamie pointed out that she feels that this committee is the most important committee in NASS, and so committee members should lead by example, however, and demonstrate a certain level of commitment and responsibility, and that the committee needs to know if a member will follow through when she agrees to take on a task. She pointed out that if a committee member misses two meetings, they become considerably behind.

Adele pointed out that she tries hard to make the committee meetings at a time that everybody can attend, so if people can't attend they should at least let the committee chair know that they can't attend. Also, that there are certainly some people such as Ulla who are very experienced and help us out with committee work from time to time, but they are not necessarily going to be participating in all activities of the committee.

All committee members agreed that the task sheet that Jamie generated can really help to keep the committee running more efficiently.

As a follow up to this portion of the discussion Adele suggested wording such as: "Committee members should feel free to accept or decline tasks if they feel they don't have the time or interest to take them on."

Hallie also suggested that another approach would be to make guidelines that apply to all committees rather than to a specific committee, expressing concern that it is difficult to get volunteers.

Jamie suggested that if we have a task or tasks that we can always put them on the task sheet and then later down the road find volunteers to participate in that task.

Hallie responded that perhaps NASS members who are not on the committee might want to volunteer for particular tasks even though they are not officially committee members.

General consensus was that item "a" is too problematic to accept, but that items "b", "c", and "d" are good ideas. Adele suggested that everybody can continue to consider these items over the next few weeks and contribute via e-mail any other specific suggestions, and that the committee could finalize some committee guidelines at the next BC meeting. It was also suggested that the BC could pass along these suggestions to the BOD so they could consider such guidelines for all committees rather than just for the Breeding Committee.

Overall it was acknowledged that this is the first time we have had any general conversation regarding committee rules. We have thrown around some ideas that we can all think about, and no concrete decision was made nor needed at this point in time.

Motion was made to adjourn and Committee adjourned at approximately 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Adele Furby, BC Chair