**NSQA**

**Newsletter**

March 2019

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President: Ian O’Loan OAM Executive Officer: Mark McDonald

**President’s Report**



Welcome to this latest edition of the NSQA newsletter. As you will see from the following content NSQA is continuing its process to engage with members to ensure the system remains up to date and relevant to members. You may be contacted by NSQA is the near future for further feedback and I encourage you to provide frank feedback to this process. We have also made progress on revising some of the NSQA documentation and training materials that will be of use to new staff and members.

*Ian O’Loan OAM President*

**NSQA ELECTION RESULTS**

The biannual NSQA election was held last year with seven parties putting up their hand to be NSQA board members (including the current 5 person board). A total of 37 NSQA members voted in this election which was the highest response rate for several elections.

Following the election process this resulted in one change to the previous board for the next 2 year term (2018-2020). Mr Grant Johnson was replaced by Mr Paul White from Warrnambool Saleyards. Mr Ian O’Loan was re-elected as NSQA President at the October 2018 AGM held in Barnawartha.

The NSQA President thanked Mr Johnson for his input over a number of years and looked forward to working with the new board to enhance the NSQA system on behalf of members.

**AUSMEAT MOU**

The MOU between AUSMEAT and NSQA that manages the sale yard audit process for accredited NSQA members was renewed in 2018 based on the terms of the previous contract. This MOU was updated to operate for the next 3 years.

AUSMEAT provide the independent auditors who undertake the saleyard audits conducted annually for NSQA accredited Saleyards. These reports are passed back to NSQA once completed by AUSMEAT for consideration by the NSQA board. If necessary NSQA can also assist individual Saleyards with issues that may be raised during these audits.

**ANIMAL ANGELS**

You may have been visited by Animal Angels staff in recent times. These visits generate a site report which is also distributed to NSQA and other industry parties. The NSQA board does consider these reports and if need be will contact yards if anything is raised that needs attention in relation to the current NSQA standard.

A common theme with many of these reports is the issue of pen densities (mainly in relation to sheep and lambs). Pen densities are detailed in the NSQA standard and also in the recently released Standards and Guidelines for Animal Welfare in Saleyards.

We understand that this sale practice can be quite subjective and will depend on the weather, species and other factors. However, members are advised to review the current guidelines and ensure that stock are not over crowded in pens.

**WATER RESTRICTIONS**

The NSQA board is aware that a number of Saleyards in northern Australia are experiencing severe water restrictions in their areas. This can result in reduced water use in the saleyard including washing down post sale and the operation of the truckwash facilities. If your yard is experiencing water restrictions that impact your operations can you please advise NSQA as soon as possible. This will allow us to notify AUSMEAT so any subsequent audits can take this into consideration.

**NSQA ARTICLES**

The articles of association for NSQA are currently being updated. It is some time since these have been reviewed and the change will bring them into line with current legislative requirements (model rules).

It is anticipated that these changes will be completed by mid-2019 and will be ratified at the SGM/AGM being held in late 2019. Members will receive a copy of the new rules when these have been finalised by the board.

**NHVR REGULATIONS**

The introduction of the new national NHVR regulations (Chain of responsibility) is being closely considered by the NSQA board to determine if the NSQA system needs to be updated to reflect the new regulations. Currently this system is being reviewed following industry feedback, in particular the use of the new regulations in NSW.

Members will be informed if the system needs to be updated.

**NSQA DOCUMENTATION**

The ‘NO NAME NSQA MANUAL’ is currently being updated to reflect the new version released in 2017. This will be distributed to members once this is signed off by the board. This is a valuable document that helps yards understand the system and for non accredited yards to obtain full accreditation.

**NSQA MEMBERSHIP FEEDBACK**

The NSQA board is continuing its membership feedback strategy. Recently a number of yards have been contacted by NSQA board members to obtain direct feedback on a number of NSQA related issues. This follows a member’s survey undertaken in mid-2018.

In the near future all non accredited yards will be contacted by the executive officer. This is to determine what is needed by each yard to obtain full accredited status.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT NSQA THEN CONTACT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER – 0422 312607**

[**nsqa@bigpond.net.au**](mailto:nsqa@bigpond.net.au)

***Details are also at the AUSMEAT website***

[www.ausmeat.com.au](http://www.ausmeat.com.au/)

Just click on the NSQA Logo

**Audits should be arranged by direct contact with Wayne Williamson at AUSMEAT**

**Phone: 07 3361 9211 0427 610 463**

**LIST OF CURRENT NSQA**

**ACCREDITED SALEYARDS**

05/1998 Casino, NSW

29/2001 Coonamble, NSW

37/2002 Cowra, NSW

18/2000 Deniliquin, NSW

07/1998 Dubbo, NSW

14/1999 Finley, NSW Cattle only

41/2002 Glen Innes, NSW

39/2002 Gloucester, NSW

44/2003 Grafton, NSW

01/1998 Inverell, NSW

34/2001 Kempsey, NSW

40/2002 Lismore, NSW

36/2001 Maitland, NSW Cattle only

09/1999 Mudgee, NSW

35/2001 Narrabri, NSW Cattle only

30/2001 Singleton, NSW

22/2000 Yass, NSW

47/2004 Bairnsdale, Victoria

19/2000 Bendigo, Victoria

16/2000 Camperdown, Victoria

51/2014 Casterton, Victoria

08/1998 Colac, Victoria

33/2001 Echuca, Victoria

27/2000 Hamilton, Victoria

31/2001 Horsham, Victoria

46/2003 Kerang, Victoria

02/1998 Northern Victoria LE, Victoria

38/2002 Ouyen, Victoria

10/1998 Shepparton, Victoria

04/1998 Swan Hill, Victoria

12/1999 Wangaratta, Victoria

49/2010 Warracknabeal, Victoria

24/2000 Warrnambool, Victoria

50/2011 Wycheproof, Victoria

06/1998 Millicent, S.A.

26/2000 Mount Gambier, SA

28/2000 Naracoorte, SA

17/2000 Adelaide Plains. L’stock Ex. SA

11/1999 Biloela, Qld.

48/2005 Charters Towers, Qld

03/1998 Gympie, Qld.

32/2001 Moura, Qld.

43/2003 Central Queensland LE Qld

20/2000 Roma, Qld.

45/2003 Silverdale, Qld

52/2016 Warwick, Qld