

**Illinois Meat Goat Producers
Board of Directors Meeting
March 3, 2008**

The phone teleconference meeting was called to order at 7:04pm. Those present included Burt Walker, Jen Miller, Vicky Wetzel, Mike Taylor, Drew Earles, Jay Hofer, Beth Ellerbrock and Donnie Montgomery. Absent was Jodie Boen due to a scheduling conflict.

Secretary's Report (Jen)

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting. Beth motioned to accept the minutes, Vicky 2nd and motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report (Vicky)

Dave F. is mailing Vicky all of the Treasurer's books.

Advertising & Promotion

- Planning a Goat Rancher ad for Fairfield & in calendar of events
- Jay recommended advertising in IL/IN Farm Week/News & Illini Sheep & Meat Goat Net
- Beth will place a free ad on IL Horse Trader website
- Vicky will make sure its listed with ABGA

Show

- Vicky updated the Show Rules and the Points information. The class list remains the same. Group classes were modified, specifically the Get of Sire class: the sire does not need to be there (i.e.: shipped semen). There are three sponsors already for these group classes. We will have an ad in the newsletter that we need more sponsors for these classes. *All rules and class lists will be included at the end of the minutes.
- Vicky has been in touch with Annette Maze regarding a USBGA open show. We would receive \$1000 to be split as prize money between wether classes and junior breeding stock classes. Juniors must be USBGA members (\$15). Entry fee would be \$10/head. There would be cash payback for all classes. Beth proposed a questionnaire at Fairfield to see if there would be enough interest for a USBGA show at Highland. Beth motioned to consider having a USBGA show at Fairfield or Highland once we had more information regarding costs, etc. Jen 2nd, and motion carried unanimously. Vicky motioned to allow IMG P to pursue a USBGA show at Fairfield providing we found a USBGA judge for under \$650 (including travel); otherwise we would look into having the show at Highland. Beth 2nd, motion carried unanimously.
- Vicky is sending out contracts for the Fairfield judges. Midwest Goat Producers is paying for Coni Ross's hotel because they are having her do a seminar on Friday night.
- Showmaster is a possible sponsor

- Illinois Wether Series (information included at the end of the minutes). This program was created to reward junior exhibitors for showing wethers. It costs \$125 for a show to be sanctioned (\$25 to be returned to the show if results are received within 2 weeks). The top 20 placers will be rewarded at the end of the year. Concern: is this promoting the farms or IMGP, and, is this fair to kids who are IMGP members but not from IL? Positive: encourages wether showing and sales. Jay motioned to sanction the Fairfield show and see how the showers/members respond before sanctioning any more shows. Drew 2nd and motion carried unanimously.

Production

- Buck Test: After discussion, it was decided to keep the seminar at the end of the Test simple, so we will ask Mark Hoge if he can give us a tour of the facilities and review the results. We will still have the optional sale at the conclusion of the test. We will contact Dr. Lewis to see if she can do FAMACHA on the goats. Also, Hubbard still owes us for the 2006 & 2007 Highland sponsorship (\$1000), so Jen will contact Ty Olsen regarding this (we would like our sponsorship money before we let them supply the feed for the test). Jay knows that Kent feed is interested in bidding for the test.

Website

- Drew has received the password & will start updating the site.
- Jen will email Drew the membership application & Buck Test information to put up on the site

Newsletter

- Nan has 12 pages ready to print for the next newsletter. We made \$204 in ads and it costs about \$117 to print and mail. She will send invoices to all who placed ads but have not yet paid.

Youth

- Jen contacted the FFA contact regarding IMGP hosting a seminar at the FFA convention, but has not heard back. The convention is during ABGA Nationals.

New Business

- Illinois farmers are working on getting the mandatory NAIS requirements for showing horses & livestock overturned. Please go to meetings to support this. Ag Secretary Hartke resigned.
- Cookbooks – Burt has a few left, Jen has one left, and Burt will talk with Chris Fleming and see how many he has left.
- Burt asked if IMGP would be willing to sponsor the Peoria show. Jay motioned to have IMGP sponsor the show, Vicky 2nd and motion carried unanimously.
- McKinley Rogers is interested in starting a new IMGP show in Northern Illinois. The board agrees that another show is needed. Beth and/or Vicky will be contacting McKinley for more information regarding the venue, costs, time of year, etc. If we can't make it work for 2008, then we will plan for 2009.

The next meeting is at Diamond's Restaurant in Springfield, IL at 10 am on Sunday April 20, 2008.

Vicky motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm, Drew 2nd and motion carried unanimously.

Addendum:

USBGA at Fairfield: Vic Leas from IN (302 miles round trip) will judge our show. We will pay him \$250 for judging, plus his actual gas cost, and put him up for the night. So at 300 miles/10 miles per gallon * \$4 gas = \$120 plus motel so we are under \$450 for his cost. I will get all the forms to Annette next week.

2008 IMGP Class List

Percentage Does:

Class 1 - 0 to 3 months
Class 2 - 3 to 6 months
Class 3 - 6 to 9 months
Class 4 - 9 to 12 months
Class 5 - Junior Division Champion
Class 6 - Junior Division Reserve Champion
IL Junior Division Champion/Reserve
Class 7 - 12 to 16 months
Class 8 - 16 to 20 months
Class 9 - 20 to 24 months
Class 10 - Yearling Division Champion
Class 11 - Yearling Division Reserve Champion
IL Yearling Division Champion/Reserve
Class 12 - 24 to 36 months
Class 13 - 36 months plus
Class 14 - Senior Division Champion
Class 15 - Senior Division Reserve Champion
IL Senior Division Champion/Reserve
Class 16 - Grand Champion
Class 17 - Reserve Grand Champion
IL Overall Grand/Reserve Champion

Fullblood/Purebred Does:

Class 18 - 0 to 3 months
Class 19 - 3 to 6 months
Class 20 - 6 to 9 months
Class 21 - 9 to 12 months
Class 22 - Junior Division Champion
Class 23 - Junior Division Reserve Champion
IL Junior Division Champion/Reserve
Class 24 - 12 to 16 months
Class 25 - 16 to 20 months
Class 26 - 20 to 24 months
Class 27 - Yearling Division Champion

Class 28 - Yearling Division Reserve Champion
IL Yearling Division Champion/Reserve
Class 29 - 24 to 36 months
Class 30 - 36 months plus
Class 31 - Senior Division Champion
Class 32 - Senior Division Reserve Champion
IL Senior Division Champion/Reserve
Class 33 - Grand Champion
Class 34 - Reserve Grand Champion
IL Overall Grand/Reserve Champion

Fullblood Bucks:

Class 35 - 0 to 3 months
Class 36 - 3 to 6 months
Class 37 - 6 to 9 months
Class 38 - 9 to 12 months
Class 39 - Junior Division Champion
Class 40 - Junior Division Reserve Champion
IL Junior Division Champion/Reserve
Class 41 - 12 to 16 months
Class 42 - 16 to 20 months
Class 43 - 20 to 24 months
Class 44 - Yearling Division Champion
Class 45 - Yearling Division Reserve Champion
IL Yearling Division Champion/Reserve
Class 46 - 24 to 36 months
Class 47 - 36 months plus
Class 48 - Senior Division Champion
Class 49 - Senior Division Reserve Champion
IL Senior Division Champion/Reserve
Class 50 - Grand Champion
Class 51 - Reserve Grand Champion
IL Overall Grand/Reserve Champion

2008 IMGP SHOW RULES

GENERAL

1. All animals must have ORIGINAL (no copies) current health papers (IL farms – within 90 days, out of state – within 30 days). Papers WILL be checked at registration. Failure to present current health papers at check-in will result in disqualification and forfeiture of all entry fees.
2. Any animal which presents with an abscess (regardless of whether it is open or not) or appears ill, will not be allowed to be shown and will not be allowed in the barn/pen area.
3. All registered animals must be registered in the name of the exhibitor/farm or the exhibitor must possess a letter stating they are acting as an agent for the owner.
4. Only animals under 3 months of age will be allowed to show on “application to register.” No exceptions!
5. Exhibitors are expected to behave in a showman/show-woman like manner and comply with the show rules. Any exhibitor who fails to act in a professional and ethical manner, breaks show rules, or behaves in an unshowmanship like manner will be asked to leave the show grounds, forfeit all entry fees and monies won, and may be barred from future IMGP shows at the discretion of the IMGP Board of Directors.
6. Any issues on show day will be evaluated by all members of the IMGP Board of Directors that are present at the show site. Their decision will be final.
7. Proper show attire will be worn by all exhibitors.
8. All animals will be shown in their natural state, clipping and fitting are allowed.
9. No withholding of feed/water, drenching, ice packs or otherwise inhumane treatment will be tolerated.

JUNIOR WETHER SHOW

1. All exhibitors must be 19 years old or under as of 1 Jan 2008.
2. All animals must be owned by the exhibitor no later than 1 May 2008.
3. Wethers will be weighed and divided into appropriate weight classes. Classes will be broken by weight at the discretion of the show superintendent. Class winners will compete for overall market wether champion.
4. All wethers must have a scrapie tag in their ears that matches their health papers. No tagging after arrival at show grounds.
5. Cash awards will be made for champion/reserve champion and the first three placings in each class (at a minimum). 100% payback of entry fees guaranteed.

JUNIOR BREEDING SHOW

1. All exhibitors must be 19 years old or under as of 1 Jan 2008.
2. All animals must be owned by the exhibitor no later than 1 May 2008.
3. All animals must be registered in the name of the exhibitor only and have correct tattoos.

4. Cash awards will be made for champion/reserve champion and the first three placings in each class (at a minimum). 100% payback of entry fees guaranteed.

IMGP Illinois Bred and Owned Point Program

The IMGP Illinois Bred and Owned Point Program shows are open to any junior Illinois exhibitor exhibiting any Illinois bred goat. The Point Series shows coincide with IMGP open shows. The exhibitor must show his/her own goat(s) unless exhibiting more than one goat in a single class. If exhibiting more than one goat in a single class, then another exhibitor may show that goat. This also includes championship classes.

All goats must be registered in the exhibitor's name. A copy of the registration certificate for these entries must accompany your entry form. Once you've sent a copy in for a goat, you do not have to send another copy for subsequent IMGP shows.

Each of the point shows have class points based on class placing along with a Grand and Reserve Grand Champion and division champions.

The exhibitor must be a member of IMGP to participate in the IMGP Point Program. Membership must be paid before entries will be permitted.

There is no additional entry fee for these classes, only IMGP membership is required.

Points

Points will be awarded based on placing in the open show. Division Champions will be selected from the two highest placing IL bred goats in each class of the open show. IL bred division champions will be selected after each open show division champion drive. Overall champion will be selected from the IL bred division champions. Both Division champions/reserve and overall champions/reserve will receive rosettes.

Grand Champion Overall: 25 Reserve Grand Champion Overall: 15

Division Champion: 10 Reserve Division Champion: 5

Class Points: if 10 goats in class (1st place-10 points, 2nd place-9 points, etc)

The points will be tracked during the show for both the exhibitor and breeder. Results will be posted on the IMGP website.

The goal of the Points Program is to award the top IL exhibitors and IL breeders throughout the course of the year based on the total number of points accumulated during that year.

Prizes are awarded to the IMGP Premier Exhibitor and Reserve Premier Exhibitor and the IMGP Premier Breeder and Reserve Premier Breeder at the annual meeting.

For more information about the IMGP Illinois Bred and Owned Point Program, please contact an IMGP board member.

IMGP Junior Goat Point Program

The IMGP Junior Goat Point Program shows are open to any junior Illinois exhibitor from five years to eighteen years (as of January 1 of the current year) exhibiting any Illinois bred goat. The Point Series shows coincide with IMGP open shows. A junior exhibitor must show his/her own goat(s) unless exhibiting more than one goat in a single class. If exhibiting more than one goat in a single class, then another exhibitor may show that goat. This also includes championship classes.

For the breeding classes, goats must be registered in the junior exhibitor's name. Copies of the registration certificate for these entries must accompany your entry form.

Wethers must be owned and in the care of the exhibitor by 1 May 08.

Each of the point shows have class points based on class placing along with a Grand and Reserve Grand Champion and division champions.

The exhibitor or their parents/guardians must be a member of IMGP to participate in the IMGP Junior Goat Point Program. Membership must be paid before entries will be permitted.

Points will be awarded in both the wether classes and breeding classes in the junior show.

Points

Breeding Class points will be awarded based on placing in the junior show. Division Champions will be selected from the two highest placing IL bred goats in each class of the junior show. IL bred division champions will be selected after each junior show division champion drive. Overall champion will be selected from the IL bred division champions. Both Division champions/reserve and overall champions/reserve will receive rosettes.

Grand Champion Overall: 25 Reserve Grand Champion Overall: 15
Division Champion: 10 Reserve Division Champion: 5
Class Points: if 10 goats in class (1st place-10 points, 2nd place-9 points, etc)

Wether Class points will be awarded based on placing in the junior show. Overall IL bred champion will be selected from the two highest placing IL bred goats in each class of the junior show. Overall champion/reserve will receive rosettes.

Grand Champion Overall: 25 Reserve Grand Champion Overall: 15
Class Points: if 10 goats in class (1st place-10 points, 2nd place-9 points, etc)

The points will be tracked during the junior show and will be posted on the IMGP website.

The goal of the Points Program is to award the top individuals Junior IMGP exhibitors throughout the course of one year based on the total number of points accumulated during that year.

Prizes are awarded to the top five exhibitors at the annual meeting that scored the highest in each area (Breeding Classes & Wether Classes). The Junior IMGP Premier Exhibitor and Reserve Premier Exhibitor will receive belt buckles. Prizes through fifth are also awarded.

For more information about the IMGP Junior Point Program, please contact an IMGP board member.

Illinois Wether Series

1. All exhibitors must be between the ages of 5 and 19 and live in the state of Illinois.
2. The 2008 Illinois Wether Series begins on January 1, 2008 and ends December 31, 2008.
3. In order for a show to be sanctioned, the show must send a \$125 check and a completed registration form to the Illinois Wether Series Committee at least 3 weeks prior to the show date. No Exceptions.
4. \$25 of the registration fee will be returned to the show if complete results are postmarked to the Illinois Wether Series Committee within 14 days of the show.
5. Points will be earned on the following basis:
Class Placing
Exhibited in Class 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th
1 Head 5
2-3 Head 10 5
4-5 Head 15 10 5
6-10 Head 20 15 10 5
11-15 Head 25 20 15 10 5
16-20 Head 30 25 20 15 10 5
21 Head 35 30 25 20 15 10 5
6. When an exhibitor's wether is named Champion of a show, he/she will receive the number of points that would have been awarded to the class winner of the largest class within the show. These points are in addition to the number of points they earned in their original class.
7. When an exhibitor's animal is named Reserve Champion of a show, he/she will also receive the number of points that would have been awarded to the second place animal of the largest class within the show. These points are in addition to the number of points they earned in their original class.
8. All points recorded in a class are based upon actual number of wethers that enter the show ring for that particular class.
9. Only the two highest placing wethers per class with a maximum of 4 wethers will be recorded for each exhibitor at any one show.
10. Wethers must possess a permanent identification, a tattoo and/or scrapie tag

number. Sanctioned shows are required to check for identification and include it on the submitted placing form.

11. Wethers can only earn points for one junior exhibitor.
12. Sanctioned shows must be open to any junior in the state.
13. If an exhibitor breaks the rules of the sanctioned show and the event chooses to bar the exhibitor or the event refuses to pay the exhibitor premiums or the event elects to not recognize the exhibitor's placings, then the exhibitor will not receive any points for that show. If an exhibitor violates this rule, then the exhibitor will be banned from the Illinois Wether Series for the current year.
14. Sanctioned shows cannot close their entries prior to their posted entry deadline. If any fair refuses entry to any junior who tries to enter on time that show will be disqualified from the Illinois Wether Series and the points will not be counted.
15. Points will be tabulated at the end of the year and prizes will be awarded to the top 20 exhibitors according to the final points placing.
16. In case of a tie, the exhibitors will compare their points from the 2008 Illinois State Fair Junior Show and the exhibitor with the higher number of points will break the tie.
17. The exhibitor with the highest number of points at the end of the year will be the winner of an aluminum popper for one year's use. Only one popper will be awarded each year.
18. An exhibitor and his/her immediate family are only eligible to win the aluminum popper one time. If the exhibitor with the highest number of points is ineligible, the popper award will go to the eligible exhibitor with the highest number of points. Immediate family means an exhibitor's brothers and sisters, including those related by half blood or stepchild of an exhibitor's parent.
19. Concerning any conflicts, the decisions of the Illinois Wether Series Committee shall be final.
20. A list of sanctioned shows and points to date for each exhibitor will be listed and maintained at www.wetherseries.com.