



October 2023 Board Meeting Highlights

1. The Canadian Angus Association Board of Directors met in person on Sunday, October 1 and Monday, October 2 at the office in Rocky View County, Alberta. The Canadian Angus Foundation Board of Directors, which includes CAA Board representatives and CEO Myles Immerkar, met in person on Tuesday, October 3.
2. The Canadian Angus Association will host a breeder session that includes breakfast, draws for the Brian Good Battle of the Breed Commercial Choice Jackpot Bull Show, and a brief presentation on CAA programs at Agribition. Watch our social media platforms and upcoming newsletters for more details.
3. The board discussed the 2024 budget, inflation, and increased rates for services to maintain Angus Central. The audit and finance committee will work with the CEO to provide a balanced and reasonable budget for board approval in early 2024.
4. Some fee schedule changes were approved at the meeting. Here are the changes and the dates they become effective:
 - i. The Canadian Angus Association will continue to provide hair cards for DNA testing to members at no cost to prevent loose hair samples.
 - ii. The fee for family transfers will be \$5 each, regardless of the number of transfers submitted, effective immediately. Previously, 50 or more transfers were \$5 each and 1 to 49 transfers were \$10 each.
 - iii. The correction fee will be *decreased to \$0*, effective January 1, 2024.
 - iv. Effective January 1, 2024, the Export Package fee will be \$75 regardless of the number of documents required. Previously, an export package with three or fewer items cost \$50/animal and an export package with four or more items cost \$75/animal.
 - v. The fee for permanent typing *increases* to \$20 per test, effective January 1, 2024. The Canadian Angus Association incurs this fee for permanent typing at the lab; this charge is a cost-recovery fee.
 - vi. The fee for Geneprob herd analysis will be *decreased to \$0*, effective January 1, 2024.
 - vii. Effective January 1, 2024, CAA will no longer offer Leptin testing or BVD testing.
 - viii. Effective January 1, 2024, the CAPP member registration and transfer fees will be *removed*. The current non-member registration and transfer fees *will not change* and will apply to all members

- ix. The annual Canadian Angus Performance Program membership fee of \$25 will be *removed*, effective January 1, 2024.
 - x. The \$2 Canadian Angus Performance Program weaning weight submission fee will be *removed*, effective January 1, 2024.
5. The Board reviewed that membership fees have not increased since 2013 despite the Association facing annual inflation costs. Effective January 1, 2024, membership fees will *increase* as follows:
- Annual membership fee will increase to \$175
 - Young breeder membership fee will increase to \$90
 - Regional association membership fee will increase to \$35

At this time, there are *no planned changes* to the lifetime membership activity fee or to the Canadian Junior Angus membership fee.

In addition, as of January 1, 2025, the fee for annual membership and young breeder membership will *increase by 2.5% annually* to avoid the need for large membership fee increases every 10 years or so.

6. The Canadian Angus Association will suspend the spot testing program for one year. The Board of Directors recognizes that most members are testing their entire calf crop and older cows, and that we have stringent testing requirements.

Members who have outstanding spot tests are required to complete these outstanding tests. No new spot tests will be requested for one year. The Board of Directors will assess whether to reinstate the spot test program after that.

7. Effective immediately, the Canadian Angus Association will allow female syndication registrations (multiple ownership of females). Either breeder can register the calf under their prefix. If both herd prefixes are to be used in the calf's name, permission from both owners will be required.

8. Update on Bylaw Amendments
In 2022, Canadian Angus Association members voted on proposed bylaw changes. A total of 51 amendments were passed by members and submitted to the federal minister of agriculture for approval. Forty-eight of the amendments received approval and three were rejected.

One of the rejected amendments (49) does not require further consideration. The Board had considered changing the number of days in the requirement that a natural calf born less than 275 days after the birth of the dam's last calf be parent verified in order to be eligible for registration. This amendment was rejected because the number of days must be specified in the bylaws. As such, animals NOT eligible for registration and entry into the Canadian Angus Herd Book include a natural calf born less than two hundred and seventy-five (275) days after the birth of the dam's last calf shall be eligible for registration, provided it meets a parentage verification requirement. Again, this rule has not changed.

Amendment 23 identified the specific duties of the Board of Directors and clearly define the Board's authority. The Animal Pedigree Act allows associations to set fees and dues but does not grant the authority to impose fines or monetary penalties. As such, ARTICLE IV — BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 2. Duties of the Board, clause j stating [the Board shall:] set all fees, dues, levies, penalties, interest rates and such other charges as the Board may decide was rejected. The wording from the previous bylaws is retained:

The Board of Directors shall from time to time set the fees charged to members and non-members doing business with the Canadian Angus Association.

Members in good standing will be invited to vote on a revision to this amendment.

Amendment 47 outlined a process for changing the Articles of Incorporation, amalgamation or dissolution beyond requiring a vote if an amendment is requested by 10 members in good standing. The amendment was rejected for two reasons. First, it was not clearly stated that members could vote on the issue of incorporation, amalgamation or dissolution either electronically or on paper. Secondly, the proposed amendment stated that remaining assets of the Association would be donated to a non-profit entity dedicated to cattle breeding. The Animal Pedigree Act requires that any remaining assets of a dissolved association "be transferred to such other association with a similar purpose or to such charity as the Minister may specify". The wording from the previous bylaws is retained:

ARTICLE XIV — DISSOLUTION

If the Association wishes to change its articles of incorporation, amalgamate with one or more other associations or dissolve the Association, an amendment may be presented to the general membership by mail ballot or online vote provided the amendment is authorized in writing by ten (10) members in good standing.

Members in good standing will be invited to vote on a revision to this amendment.

9. The board discussed multiple issues and complaints about excessive white on cattle attending shows. The CEO has been tasked with reviewing these complaints and assuring compliance with CAA rules.
10. Everyone participating in Canadian Angus Association Gold Shows is reminded that any animal with colour products applied to it in a Canadian Angus Association-sponsored show will be disqualified from the show and the show deemed ineligible for financial support from the Canadian Angus Association.
11. A research-based cow longevity EPD will be available to members for in-herd use on October 25, 2023.
12. The Canadian Angus Association building, Angus Central, has officially been listed for sale as the board performs its due diligence in reviewing the business case of remaining at Angus Central or the sale of our current property. In the event of a purchase offer, the board of directors will meet to review the offer and vote whether or not to accept it.