



November 2020 Canadian Simmental Association Board and Committee Meetings Recap

The Canadian Simmental Association (CSA) Board of Directors and its committees met November 15th to 17th for the CSA Fall Board Meetings. Due to travel and COVID-19 restrictions, some of the board and committee members who were unable to participate in person joined the discussions via video conferencing.

Some of the key topics of the three days focused on:

- Friends of Canadian Simmental Foundation Board (FCSF) meeting was held and 2020 Scholarship winners were announced.
 - Discussion of the scholarship process, as well as options for the 2021 FCSF Auction.
- The CSA directors discussed the ongoing effects of COVID-19 and its impact on CSA and the business of our members.
- The CSA Board reviewed the 2020 financial statements.
 - Based on figures to the end of October, 2020 appears to be another successful year financially for the CSA and we are optimistically budgeting for our services to remain relatively normal in 2021. We will consider possible budget re-forecasting if necessary.
- Review of the CSA Simmental Upgrade table was an important part of the meetings and changes to it will be proposed to the CSA membership.
- The fraction status for recognition of a Simmental male as a purebred was reviewed and a motion was passed to submit a by-law revision to the CSA membership in 2021 that recognizes a 7/8 male as purebred along with the proposed Upgrade Table changes.
- A presentation on the Canadian Beef Improvement Network (CBIN) was made to the Board of Directors and the Breed Improvement Committee. The CSA remains committed to further development of CBIN as an integral part of Canada's National Beef Strategy <https://beefstrategy.com/>
- The CSA is doing an assessment of new EPDs for Docility, Yield Grade and Average Daily Gain. These EPDs are not publically available however will be able to be accessed by each CSA member through their own CSA online account. Member feedback is encouraged and will be considered through this new process before any new EPDs are released.
- CSA and Simmental Country field service to Simmental sales and industry events has been suspended due to Covid-19 health restrictions.
- Due to cost savings to Simmental Country from reduced travel and field services, the CSA Directors passed a motion to reduce the cost of page advertising by

25% in the January Commercial Country and February Simmental Country magazines. This will be re-evaluated at the March 2021 board meetings. There will be no Simmental Country staff attendance at the early 2021 Simmental Bull sales as a result.

- CCIA tag sales with the blue Simmental back button have now exceeded 60,000 tags since they became available in April of 2017. These are available by ordering through the CCIA website.
- The Young Canadian Simmental Association board of directors implemented a rules amendment vote to the YCSA membership via mail-in ballot to possibly change the animal ownership requirement for showing at YCSA shows.
 - 42 votes were received by the CSA office with 24 supporting the proposed change and 18 against therefore the change is not approved. This did not meet the 2/3 majority that is required under the CSA by-laws so is defeated.
- Removing restrictions for adult involvement in YCSA shows was discussed and it was felt that this needs to be discussed further by the respective Provincial YCSA and the National YCSA memberships before changes can be made.
- Upgrades to the CSA website were made with the purpose of rejuvenating the appearance of it while maintaining as much familiarity of function to the previous version. This was completed in November.
- The CSA is implementing a 50 year membership recognition program. To be eligible the membership account must have been active for 50 consecutive years. Contact the CSA office with names of anyone who you think might qualify.
- A new CSA calving book was reviewed and is available through the CSA office.
- The Spring CSA Committee and Board meetings will be held in Calgary March 21-23.
- At this point the CSA remains hopeful that we will all meet in July 2021 in Portage la Prairie Manitoba for the CSA Annual General Meeting, YCSA National Jr. Show and the Friends of Canadian Simmental Foundation Auction.

Please visit the CSA website (www.simmental.com) and watch the Simmental Country for further details on program changes, new initiatives, and outcomes from the CSA Fall Board Meetings.

For further information contact General Manager Bruce Holmquist at bholmquist@simmental.com or 1 (639) 314-4613; or any CSA director.

Canadian Simmental Association