

MEMBERSHIP TIPS

by Jerry Cassady
director of member services



Eligible voting member: Avoid the uncertainty

Depending on where you are from, March weather can bring trials and uncertainty: challenges like cold, snow, ice, rain and mud (and more mud), just to name a few. However, as you read this, spring may be trying to break through. It's been stated, "The promise of spring's arrival is enough to get anyone through a bitter winter."

Many of our members know the importance of participating in the annual election. We are all looking forward to the 137th Annual Convention of Delegates on Monday, Nov. 9, during the Angus Convention in Kansas City, Mo. You may think it's too early to be thinking about the election. However, the deadline for eligibility to be a voting member will be here soon.

Check voting eligibility status

The American Angus Association members who want to participate in the election of Board members and other business this fall need to meet four eligibility requirements before 4:30 p.m. CDT on April 10.

According to Association bylaws, Section 3.6 (see sidebar), only eligible voting members can nominate, be nominated, vote or be elected in the annual election of delegates. To participate in the electoral process and other business during the Convention of Delegates, a member must be considered an eligible voting member and must meet all four of the following requirements by 4:30 p.m. CDT April 10. The four requirements include:

1. Active regular or life membership (dues paid in full)

2. 18 years of age or older
3. Registered at least one animal or completed at least \$250 of business with the Association or Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) within the preceding 12 months from when the nomination period begins (from April 8, 2019, to April 10, 2020)
4. Be current with all financial obligations to the American Angus Association and all of its subsidiaries when the nominating period begins.

Please note the fourth requirement

is new this year and is the result of a bylaw amendment brought to the floor and approved by delegates at the 136th Annual Convention of Delegates in Reno, Nev.

Members wishing to participate are encouraged to submit all necessary requirements with sufficient time for completion prior to the deadline. The Association will mail delegate nomination forms only to active regular and life members who qualify as eligible voting members prior to 4:30 p.m. CDT on April 10.

Section 3.6. Determination of Eligible Voting Members

In order to be eligible to (1) receive and submit a nomination form, (2) receive and submit a ballot to vote for the delegates, and (3) be nominated and elected to serve as a delegate, each of the following criteria must be met:

- (a) The individual must be (or be associated with) an Active Regular or Active Life Member when the nomination period begins;
 - (b) The member or individual acting on behalf of the member must be 18 years of age when the nomination period begins; and
 - (c) The member must have done one of the following during the preceding 12 months from when the nomination period begins:
 - (i) conducted a threshold dollar amount of business (excluding membership fees) with AAA and/or AGI, such threshold dollar amount to be set by the Board of Directors in its discretion from time to time; or
 - (ii) registered at least one animal.
 - (d) Be current with all financial obligations to the American Angus Association and all of its subsidiaries when the nominating period begins. (As adopted on November 4, 2019)
- If the member meets these criteria, then the member will be considered an "Eligible Voting Member" and be able to participate in the election process. (As adopted on November 5, 2015)

AAA Login — check box


Verify your eligibility status by going to your AAA Login account and checking the list of “Announcements” regarding the upcoming election (see Figure 1). If your membership renewal is near the eligibility deadline, remember to have your dues paid in full to not lose eligibility.

The promise of spring is upon us, and it is my hope you have survived the struggles of winter to enjoy it. Hal Borland states, “No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn.” There is plenty of uncertainty in the seedstock business, however your eligibility status doesn’t have to be one of them. Know your eligibility status before the deadline arrives.

If you have any questions regarding eligibility status, contact

Figure 1: Check voting eligibility through AAA Login



the Association at 816-383-5100, or reference the bylaws of the Association online at www.angus.org, referring to the applicable “Section 3.6: Determination of Eligible Voting Members” in “Article III: Convention of Delegates.” 

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Editor's note: For more information please contact the American Angus Association Member Services Department at (816) 383-5100 or email jcassady@angus.org.



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