

ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

Compiled by Julie Mais, editor

Delegate nomination forms

Preparations are being made for the American Angus Association's 2019 Annual Convention of Delegates this November in Reno, Nev. Forms to nominate delegates to the annual meeting will be mailed to every active life and regular member of the Association who qualifies as an eligible voting member prior to April 5, according to the Bylaws.

The nomination period is April 8-June 7. Each eligible voting member is allowed to nominate one eligible voting member who resides in the same state or district, including himself or herself. The candidate should be highly involved in the Angus business, willing to attend the meeting and able to represent Angus breeders.

Signed nomination forms must be received in the Association office by mail or online submission no later than 4:30 p.m. CDT on June 7, at which time every qualified nominee will be included on a state ballot. State ballots will be mailed to all eligible voting members in July to vote for the final slate of state delegates. When you receive the form, please return it promptly.

Check voting eligibility before April 5

American Angus Association members wanting to participate in the election of board members and other business this fall need to meet three eligibility requirements before 4:30 p.m. CDT April 5.

According to Association bylaws,

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 136th Annual Convention of Delegates, a member must be considered an eligible voting member and must meet all of the following requirements by 4:30 p.m. CDT April 5:

- Active regular or life membership (dues paid in full)
- 18 years of age or older
- 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 6, 2018, to April 5, 2019)

The nomination period for 2019 begins April 8; therefore, these criteria must be met by the end of the previous business day, Friday, April 5. It is encouraged to submit all necessary requirements with enough time for completion prior to April 5.

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 5.

Contact the Association at 816-383-5100 with any questions, 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." The 136th Annual Convention of Delegates takes place

Nov. 4, 2019, during the National Angus Convention in Reno, Nev.

Updated \$Value Indexes

The American Angus Board of Directors approved changes to the \$Value Indexes during the February board meeting Feb. 18-21, 2019. Updated \$Value Indexes will be available this June, and changes include revisions to Beef Value (\$B), updating the Weaned Calf Value (\$W) model to the new Maternal Value (\$Maternal) and rounding all \$Values to whole dollars to eliminate decimals. Quality Grade (\$QG) and Yield Grade (\$YG) will be removed because \$QG is redundant to the Marbling EPD, and \$YG is redundant to Fat and Ribeye area (REA) EPDs.

In addition, a balanced index will be implemented June 2020 with a complete education plan to be executed with the membership and industry to take place over the next 15 months.

Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) staff worked alongside AbacusBio, an animal breeding technology consulting company, to develop and conduct the survey, analyze the results and update economic models. The AGI team reviewed the findings and put together recommendations to best serve the goals of the membership and the breed. The recommendations were reviewed by the Board, and several were approved.

\$B will be updated to better reflect current end points when finishing cattle. \$W will become \$Maternal and will include more

EPDs, such as maternal calving ease, heifer pregnancy and docility. Also effective in June 2019, all \$Values will be rounded to whole dollars, eliminating the decimals, or cents, portion of each \$Value.

Angus launches national ad campaign

The American Angus Association recently launched a new national advertising campaign promoting the value of registered Angus genetics to commercial cattle producers. The new campaign showcases the registered Angus bull, cow and calf, with each to be promoted within its respective season.

Along with the print campaign, a new companion website serves as a gathering point for cattle producers who desire to learn more about historic Angus strengths in maternal, carcass and performance qualities.

The first advertisement, named “Director of Breed Improvement,” showcases the dominance of the Angus bull and his influence on America’s cow herd. The Director of Breed Improvement advertisements are currently running in national and regional publications throughout the U.S., as well as digitally on select online platforms.

The second advertisement will make its debut this summer during feeder-calf sale season. It is named “Head of the Class,” as Angus and Angus-influenced feeder calves consistently find themselves at the top of the chart when it comes to sale averages and carcass quality. According to the 2016 Here’s the Premium study conducted by Certified Angus Beef LLC, Angus steers and heifers bring an average of almost \$25 more per head than their non-Angus competitors.

When producers market Angus-sired calves, there is documented value from that transaction. The Association’s commercial programs, AngusSource® and Angus LinkSM, are designed to help commercial producers find the extra value.

The third advertisement focuses on the maternal side of the Angus business, highlighting the Angus cow and her maternal strengths. Named the “Most Valuable Player,” she provides unparalleled maternal instincts and is adaptable to nearly any region. The “Most Valuable Player” ads will be placed strategically in publications and online during the fall calving season.

Losing Ground airs May 25

Losing Ground, an I Am Angus film, is the first and only film to explore the effect of urbanization on rural America. The one-hour film will feature research from the American Farmland Trust and the stories of five diverse operations. These operations, from four different areas of the country, face the struggle of a growing urban center every day.

The film premieres at 7 p.m. on May 25, 2019, on RFD-TV and the Angus TV YouTube channel. The official *Losing Ground* trailer can be found at www.youtube.com/watch?v=suAlYGyzfNs. Subscribe to the YouTube channel for updates.

Show for the Purple

The 2019 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) will take place July 14-20 in Louisville, Ky.

More than 1,200 head of cattle are expected to compete in the show ring at this year’s NJAS themed “Win, Place, Show for the Purple.”

The classes offered will provide

At a glance

April 2019

- 5 Eligible voting member deadline

MAY 2019

- 1 Deadline for scholarship applications for Certified Angus Beef LLC, NJAA, American Angus Auxiliary, Allied Angus Breeders and Angus Foundation
- 1 ERJAS Phenotype and Genotype Show entry and ownership deadline
- 1 Gold Award and Outstanding Leader application deadline
- 15 Ownership and early entry deadline for National Junior Angus Show
- 15 Entry deadline for NJAA photography, graphic design and cook-off contests
- 25 Entry deadline for NJAA writing, public speaking and career development contests
- 25 Late entry deadline for National Junior Angus Show (online only)

opportunities for juniors to exhibit their owned heifers, bred-and-owned (B&O) heifers, cow-calf pairs, steers, and B&O bulls.

Herds of the century

The Century Award recognizes members who have been in continuous production of registered Angus cattle for 100 years or more.

Award recipients are recognized with an engraved plaque at the Association’s Annual Awards Banquet, notice in the *Angus Journal*, and a list maintained on the Association’s website.

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CURRENT ASSOCIATION FEES

Following are the correct fees for various American Angus Association services. Be sure to send the correct amount of money with the work being requested, as incorrect payments are the main cause of delays.

REGISTRATIONS

- Applications for animals less than 4 months of age\$7
- Applications for animals 4-10 months of age \$9
- Applications for animals 10-12 months of age\$14
- Applications for animals more than 12 months of age \$27

TRANSFERS

- Applications received less than 30 days from sale date \$5
- Applications received 30-60 days from sale date.....\$7
- Applications received more than 60 days from sale date\$12

MISCELLANEOUS

- Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) fee (per first weight submitted) \$3
- Artificial insemination (AI) service certificate.....\$10
- Regular annual membership\$80
- Regular annual membership with Angus Journal subscription..... \$130
- Lifetime membership (optional to pay in three \$500/year installments)..... \$1,500
- Junior annual membership (less than 21 years of age)..... \$20
- Embryo-transfer (ET) calf..... regular registration fee plus \$10
- Cell-clone transplant calf..... regular registration fee plus \$50

Rules of the American Angus Association are included in the Breeder's Reference Guide. Free copies are available from the Association. An online version is available through the "Rules and Forms" link at www.angus.org.

BREEDER'S REFERENCE

Symbols are used with a registration number to denote important information about an animal.

SYMBOL MEANING

- # Pathfinder cow or Pathfinder sire
- + Embryo transfer calf
- ^ Cell clone
- % Split-ET
- @ Clone-ET
- * Parentage qualified to both parents and the mating

The American Angus Association currently recognizes the following genetic conditions:

CODE MEANING

- AM Arthrogryposis multiplex
- CA Contractural arachnodactyly
- D2 PRKG2 gene mutation for dwarfism
- DD Developmental duplication
- DM Double muscling
- DW Dwarfism
- HG Horn gene
- HI Heterochromia irides
- M1 nt821 mutation for double muscling
- NH Neuropathic hydrocephalus
- OH Oculocutaneous hypopigmentation
- OS Osteopetrosis
- RD Red gene
- SN Syndactyly
- WT Wild type color gene

The following single-letter descriptors appearing after a genetic condition code shall have the following meaning:

- P - refers to a "potential" carrier based on an ancestor known to carry that specific mutation.
- F - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be "free" of that specific mutation.
- C - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a "carrier" of that specific mutation.
- A - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a carrier of two copies of that specific mutation. It may or may not exhibit the phenotype associated with that genetic condition.

The following letter designations describe cases in which there is more than one genetic condition present:

- XF - Free of more than one genetic condition.
- XC - Carrier of more than one genetic condition.
- XA - Affected of more than one genetic condition.
- RTF - Recessive trait free (produced 35 or more calves from daughters without a genetic defect).

Applications are available online at www.angus.org/Custom/AwardsAndRecognitions.aspx or by contacting the Events and Education Department. This year's awards will be presented during the Awards Recognition Breakfast in Reno, Nev., during the 2019 Angus Convention.

Scholarship apps due

The Angus Foundation will award a number of undergraduate and graduate scholarships this year. Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the 2019 NJAS in Louisville, Ky.

Eligibility requirements for the general Angus Foundation scholarships remain the same. Angus youth who are graduating from high school or in college currently may also be eligible for other Angus-related scholarships that are permanently endowed and managed by the Angus Foundation.

The Foundation will make graduate student scholarships available to young men and women actively involved in the Angus breed who are pursuing advanced degrees.

Applicants must have at one time been a NJAA member and must currently be a junior, regular or life member of the Association. Strong preference and priority will be given to applicants pursuing advanced degrees related to the beef industry.

The Angus Foundation undergraduate and graduate student scholarship application and guidelines are available at www.angusfoundation.org. The application deadline is May 1.

Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB)/NJAA scholarship applications are also due May 1 and require a separate application (available on website).

Applicants should carefully read and follow the scholarship guidelines and requirements their application

must meet to be determined eligible for consideration. Applying is no guarantee of receiving a scholarship.

For more information, contact the Angus Foundation at 816-383-5100.

Auxiliary scholarships

The American Angus Auxiliary annually awards scholarships to graduating high school seniors. The postmark deadline for the national contest is May 1.

Junior Angus members must first be chosen as a state auxiliary scholarship winner before advancing to the national competition.

Applications are available at www.angusauxiliary.com.

Affiliate scholarship

The Angus Foundation will provide \$1,000 scholarships to three youth who use Angus genetics in their seedstock or commercial operations. Awards will be distributed this July.

The applicant or applicant's parents/guardians must have transferred or been transferred an Angus registration paper in the last 36 months.

Full details can be found at www.angusfoundation.org. The Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship application is available online and is due May 1.

Feeding Quality Forum

The *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Feeding Quality Forum is set for Aug. 27-28 in Amarillo, Texas.

It's the second year of a format change from the historic one-day event to two, which includes additional educational opportunities and an expanded target audience.

"We really wanted to bring together those quality-minded cattle feeding industry participants and their cow-calf suppliers," says Kara Lee, CAB production brand manager.

"We're planning to cover everything from market and consumer trends to technical sessions on implanting and health monitoring."

The schedule allows for networking time, including the evening banquet to celebrate the 2019 FQF Industry Achievement Award honoree. An optional packing plant tour is planned, with limited space reserved for early registrants.

Watch CABcattle.com for registration information.

Transfer assistance

If you know of a junior member who has purchased or raised a heifer that he or she wants to show, please make note of all ownership deadlines. If a deadline is approaching and you haven't received the transferred registration, the Association can help.

Contact the Association at least two weeks prior to the show ownership deadline. Every effort will be made to get the transfer processed in time. Remember, late transfers are never accepted, regardless of the reason or circumstances.

Report new leaders

State and regional Angus associations should submit officer listings to the Association by May 1 for listing on www.angus.org.

Listings may include association name, current officers, contact information and website. If you haven't received a form to update your association's listing, contact Lea Ann Maudlin at 816-383-5155 or at lmaudlin@angus.org.

State auxiliary information is requested in the same mailing. Please be sure to complete both forms and return them in a timely manner.

2019 Angus Convention

Mark your calendars to attend the 2019 Angus Convention at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center in Reno, Nev., Nov. 1-4. Booth information is available at www.angusconvention.com. Registration and hotel blocks will open July 1.

The convention offers producers and industry leaders opportunities for networking, education and breed improvement in addition to conducting the business of the American Angus Association.

Sale/field-day kit

Producers planning a summer field day or a fall sale can request a sale-day kit or field-day planner and kit from the American Angus Association. Go online and visit The Angus Brand at www.shop.angus.org to find educational and promotional information about the Angus breed and Association programs. Printed literature is still free, but will now include the cost of shipping.

MaternalPlus incentives

The Association is offering cash-back incentives for herds enrolling in the MaternalPlus® program.

Incentives include:

- Introductory 5% cash back on Association fees once a producer completes the first year's enrollment.
- An extra 2.5% cash back each subsequent year a re-enrollment is completed until 150,000 females are enrolled in the program.

Association fees eligible for the cash-back rebate include membership, registration, transfer and Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) submitted and paid for in the previous 12 months.

To learn more about MaternalPlus, visit www.angus.org/MaternalPlus or AAA Login. 