



## **SUPERWHITES**

### **WHITE SUFFOLK YOUNG SIRE & GENETIC IMPROVEMENT GROUP**

#### **THE COMMITTEE**

1. The SUPERWHITES committee will consist of 5 members with a 2-year tenure. In alternate years 2 or 3 retire but are eligible for re-election. All SUPERWHITES members are eligible for nomination to the committee. A ballot will be held when necessary.
2. The ballot (if required) will be completed prior to the SUPERWHITES AGM.
3. The committee has the power to co-opt if necessary.
4. The SUPERWHITES chairman to be elected by the committee immediately following the SUPERWHITES AGM.
5. The chairman to submit an annual report to the AWSA Federal Council for perusal at the February Federal Council meeting.

#### **AIMS**

1. To encourage an improved rate of genetic gain amongst member flocks.
2. To use highly ranked young White Suffolk rams from member flocks.
3. To establish excellent genetic links between member flocks and the White Suffolk breed in general.
4. To foster improved data quality amongst member flocks.
5. To produce a product marketable under the SUPERWHITES brand, which meets desirable breed and LAMBPLAN benchmarks.
6. To engage with the greater sheep industry in research and/or research allied projects which will benefit SUPERWHITES members, and the White Suffolk breed in general.

#### **RULES**

1. Nominated rams require a video which must be available to all members through the Superwhites preferred platform (private Facebook group).
2. All selected rams nominated by members are presumed to be of sufficient merit and quality to be used in the program. No inspection required.
3. All selected rams must be tested Hypotrichosis free prior to collection.
4. All nominated rams must have genomic test results included in (at the latest) the May 31<sup>st</sup> LAMBPLAN run.
5. The committee may choose to include a “link sire” in the sire team to be used by all members. A member may choose not to use the link sire if they have used it previously.
6. Semen must be collected by September the 30<sup>th</sup> or the ram will be removed from the team. It is preferable that semen is collected ASAP after the team is selected to allow allocation to proceed in a timely manner.
7. Semen will not be distributed prior to October the 31<sup>st</sup>.

8. Members must take at least two (2) rams and no more than four (4) rams with each being mated to eighteen (18) ewes. This includes the link sire in years where a link sire is selected by the Committee.
9. All young sire allocations to be done by Sheep Genetics.
10. Member studs must have at least 75 ewes in their mating program.
11. Member studs to involve no more than 50% of their mated ewes in the program.
12. Members must use the semen allocated to them. If members have not used the semen allocated for 2 years membership will be terminated.
13. All members to give permission to allow Sheep Genetics to post all their studs data on the Sheep Genetics website search page.
14. To remain a member of the group, a member must:
  - a) Reply to Chairman's emails in a timely manner;
  - b) Nominate a ram that is in the top 5% LEQ index at least once every three years;
  - c) Attend the AGM in person or via video conference at least once every three years.

Not complying with these points will result in group membership being reviewed by the Committee.

It is recommended that ewes be randomly mated to the allocated sires unless TGRM/MateSel is being used.

## **FEE SCHEDULE**

New member (joining fee):	<b>\$500 plus GST</b> <i>(this also applies to any members wishing to re-join)</i>
Annual membership:	<b>\$100 plus GST</b>
Semen – per ewe dose allocated:	<b>\$20 plus GST</b>

## **REIMBURSEMENTS**

- Flocks supplying semen from rams for YST to be reimbursed \$15/ewe dose + GST. Secretariat to be invoiced prior to payment.
- Flocks supplying a Link Sire for YST to be reimbursed at an amount to be determined by the committee.

SUPERWHITES covers the cost of dispatch and freight for semen