

August 2nd, 2023 - Board Meeting Minutes

Here is a clip from the Jan 2022 winter meeting minutes where I, Mike Reynolds, supported the show and suggested we fund the ABLs at AYE.

“Mike proposed we add to the Arkansas Youth Expo. In 2021, they picked the top ABL lambs at their show and it would be nice to help recognize them. All were in favor to do this; however, it was mentioned the exhibitors need to know clearly, they are doing this because last year many kids did not know to come back for the ABL grand drive. Suzie Wright volunteered to be at the gate, telling the ABL exhibitors to come back for the grand drive. It was proposed to award cash and prizes. \$100 Gran ABL, \$50 Reserve ABL to the breed champions, Grand Overall ABL, Reserve overall ABL. The total budget to be \$1700. All were in favor. It was made known that this is completely tentative until we know for sure what AYE is doing. Janeal Yancy said she was invited to be in the AYE meeting.”

At the time, we went into this blindly. The proposed budget was \$1,700. We ended up spending \$950.00 at the 2022 AYE ABL show.

It was made known at the winter meeting of 2023 that Mr. Walker was giving the AJSC a time and place to have a stand alone ABL show. Several thoughts on how to fund the show were mentioned, but given the unknown about the show, a committee was formed to produce a plan for the show. Also, at the winter meeting a judges list was built and later ranked.

In the spring of 2023, a proposal was made on had to fund the show. The committee asked for \$2,100.00 to be used with the \$15.00 entry fee for the show along with outside sponsors the committee were to seek out.

On July 28th, we received a nomination from a showman whose birthdate puts her above the AJSC ages. On July 31st, I, Mike Reynolds, reached out to the breeders who had sold the most ABL sheep in 2023 and the executive committee via email, and I also included the breeder who owned the sheep the showman nominated.

Discussions were held through email, text, and phone calls.

The agreement for their case from the breeder was since this was being held at AYE and AYE maximum age was 21, this was legal.

The arguments from those who opposed were as follows:

1. The Arkansas Junior Sheep Council is a junior show and if we (ASSC/AJSC) were to sponsor the show, it should be limited to junior showman.
2. We have used the State Fair age rule for years as our standard. This is an ABL show at AYE, but the consensus is that we set a precedence for this year by following the State Fair age rule to this point.
3. If the AYE ABL committee intended on using ages of AYE for the AYE ABL show, then breeders and showmen should have been made aware of the rule. If the breeders and showmen had known prior to the July 1st ownership deadline (or even more ideally early spring when lamb sales began) then an equal opportunity would have been given to all showmen over the State Fair age rule.

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On August 2nd, 2023, the Executive Board of Robert McDonald, Ashley Flickinger, Joe Washburn, and Janeal Yancey voted 4 to 0, that to show at either of the AJSC/ASSC sponsored shows you must be no older than 19 years of age before October 13, 2023. As president I, Mike Reynolds, did not vote, and Mrs. Wanda was traveling. This was a unanimous vote from the executive committee and carried the weight of the breeders we consulted. The Executive Board made the decision that there would be no further discussion on this until the winter meeting. At the 2024 Winter Meeting we will look at clarifying the rules to include the ABL show at AYE, amend current rules for other shows (if needed), and create new rules to accommodate our evolving AJSC shows.