



International Sheep Veterinary Association General Meeting Draft Minutes

October 29, 2025 @ 16:30 – 17:30 (AEDT - UTC+11 hours)

Room: Grand Ballroom

1. **Welcome and Announcements** – President. The President, Paula Menzies, opened the meeting and welcomed all delegates and attendees to the ISVA General Meeting 2025 in Wollongong.
2. **Membership attendance** (Secretary): The following delegates attended the meeting in person: Colin Trengrove (Australia), George Fthenakis (Greece), Cecilie Ersdal (Norway), Ken Pettet (South Africa), Delia Lacasta (Spain), David Charles (United Kingdom), Huber Rizzo (Brazil), Paula Menzies (Canada), Eeva Mustonen (Finland), Katja Voigt (Germany), Piet Vellema (Netherlands), Allen Cannedy (United States), Martin Gruber (Austria), and Seamus Fagan (Ireland).
The following delegates attended the meeting online: Rhoda Leask (South Africa), Héctor de la Cruz (Mexico), Florian Plaku (Albania), Eva Van Mael (Belgium), Karin Lindqvist-Frisk (Sweden), and Amy Gaw (Canada).
3. **Approval of the Minutes of the 10th ISVA General Meeting**, The minutes from the 2023 Seville meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved by the members present online or physically.
4. **Matters Arising** (President) No matters arising were reported.
5. **Secretary's Report** (Secretary-Treasurer- President)
Proposed amendments to the ISVA Constitution were presented by the President. The changes were aimed at improving clarity and expanding membership. Documents detailing the modifications were circulated to all voting delegates on 11 September 2025. Following discussion, the proposal was voted and approved upon, requiring a two-thirds (67%) majority for approval.
6. **Nominations and election of 2025-2028 Executive Committee**. The following officers were elected by virtual ballot:
 - President: Piet Vellema (Netherlands)
 - Vice President: Delia Lacasta (Spain)
 - Secretary-Treasurer: Cecilie Ersdal (Norway)
 - Committee Members: Andrew Whale (Australia); one position still open

- Past President: Paula Menzies (Canada)
- 12th ISVC Representative: Huber Rizzo (Brazil)

7. **President's Report** The outgoing President, Paula Menzies, presented her report, summarising ISVA's recent activities and expressing gratitude for the support received during her term. The President expressed pride in representing ISVA since the 2023 Seville ISVC and highlighted four main initiatives achieved over the past two and a half years:
 - Support for the Australian Veterinary Association, led by Andrew Whale and his team, in successfully organising the ISVC in Wollongong.
 - Membership development, including outreach to national veterinary associations and small ruminant groups, as well as updating delegate information. Planned constitutional changes are expected to facilitate this process.
 - Future congress planning, noting that a single bid was received for the 2028 ISVC, from Brazil, which was highly commended.
 - Fundraising for the Karl Linklater Fund, which continues under the strong leadership of past president Ian Gill.
8. **Report on the Karl Linklater fund** Ian Gill reported on the Karl Linklater Fund. Visa difficulties limited recipient attendance, with no participant able to attend.
9. **Treasurer's Report** Delia Lacasta as Secretary-Treasurer summarised the ISVA accounts.
 Opening balance (February 2023): CAD 11,798.32
 - Main income: CAD \$2,858.27 received from SEOC (Sociedad Española de Ovinotecnia y Caprinotecnia) corresponding to the ISVA 2023 Congress profits (October 2023).
 - Main expenses: CAD \$270 (logo development) & CAD \$1992.90 (transfer to Karl Linklater fund)
 - Bank service fees: Regular CIBC account maintenance fees (CAD 4 monthly) were systematically waived each month.
 - Final balance (October 2025): **CAD 12,457.69 (10721€)**
 Between 2023 and 2025, ISVA's financial situation remained stable, with one major income event and two expenditures. The current account balance stands at CAD 12,457.69, reflecting a healthy position for future initiatives.
10. **Update on the 2025 11th ISVC** Andrew Whale provided an update on the 11th ISVC in Australia, reporting that the congress had run smoothly overall. He noted that all scientific and organisational aspects were successful, with positive feedback from delegates. The only setback concerned the International Dinner, which did not run smoothly, and he offered his apologies for this.
11. **Presentation of the bid for the 2028 12th ISVC.** Huber Rizzo presented the Brazilian bid to host the 12th ISVC in 2028. He delivered a comprehensive presentation to the General Meeting, and despite some technical difficulties during the session, the proposal was strong and well received by the delegates. The bid was subsequently endorsed, confirming that the next ISVC will be held in **Pernambuco, Brazil, in May 2028.**
12. **Any other relevant business at the President's discretion**

- The ISVA Lifetime Service Awards were announced for the following recipients: Ian Morrison Gill, George Fthenakis, Ken Pettey, and Neil Sargison. John Smart was not present for receiving his award in 2023 and was therefore also presented on this occasion. Neil Sargison was unable to attend the meeting, while the remaining recipients received their certificates in person.
- Final election results were confirmed, and appreciation was expressed to the outgoing President and Committee Members.
- Solicitation of bids for the 2031 ISVC. The President encouraged all member countries to consider submitting a bid to host the ISVC in 2031. Members were reminded that the ISVA website provides detailed guidelines on the bid process, and the Committee remains available to address any questions from prospective hosts.

13. **Adjourn** - next meeting to be held at the 12th ISVC, 2028 in Pernambuco, Brazil.

Appendix – List of Voting Countries, Delegates and Number of Votes – Please provide corrections / substitutions to the Sec-Treasurer Delia Lacasta

COUNTRY	VETERINARY ORGANIZATION	VOTING DELEGATE	ALTERNATE	# OF VOTES
ALBANIA	National Sheep (Veterinary) Association: Albanian Ruminant Veterinary Section	Florian Plaku	Ilir Kusi	2
AUSTRALIA	Sheep Camelid & Goat Veterinarians Group, Australia Veterinary Association	Colin Trengrove	Andrew Whale	3
AUSTRIA	Österreichische Tierärztekammer	Martin Gruber		1
BELGIUM	Orde der Dierenartsen	Eva Van Mael	Guido Bertels	1
BRAZIL	Associacao Brasileira de Buiatria	Huber Rizzo	Mario Balaro	2
CANADA	Canadian Small Ruminant Veterinarians / Veterinaries des Petits Ruminants Canadiens	Amy Gaw	Paula Menzies	2
CHINA	Chinese Association of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine	Fuchun Jian		2
COSTA RICA	Colegio de Médicos Veterinarios de Costa Rica	Natalia Soto Barrientos		1
DENMARK	Danish Veterinary Association	Inga Stamphof		1
FINLAND	Tuotantoeläinlääkäriyhdistys	Eeva Mustonen	Johanna Rautianinen	2
FRANCE	Societe Nationale des Groupements Techniques Veterinaires	Julien Visse		2
GERMANY	Deutsche Veterinarmedizinische Gesellschaft - Small Ruminants and Camelids	Katja Voigt	Henrik Wagner	2
GREECE	Hellenic Veterinary Medical Society: Farm Animal Division	George Fthenakis	Elias Papadopoulos, Vasia Mavrogianni	3
IRELAND	Veterinary Ireland	Seamus Fagan		1
ITALY	SIPAOC- Società Italiana di Patologia e di Allevamento degli Ovini e dei Caprini	Frederico Infascelli	Guiseppe Moniello	2
KENYA	Kenya Veterinary Association	Mary Romona Ndanyi		1

COUNTRY	VETERINARY ORGANIZATION	VOTING DELEGATE	ALTERNATE	# OF VOTES
MEXICO	Asociación Mexicana De Técnicos Especialistas En Ovinocultura	Rosa Berta Angulo Mejordad	Hector de la Cruz-Cruz	2
NETHERLANDS	De Koninklijke Nederlandse Maatschappij voor Diergeneeskunde, Vakgroep Gezondheidszorg Herkauwer	Piet Vellema	Rene Van den Brom	2
NEW ZEALAND	New Zealand Veterinary Association, Society of Sheep and Beef Cattle Veterinarians	Will Holiday	John Smart	3
NORWAY	Den Norske Veterinaerforening Produksjonsdyrveterinærers forening	Snorre Stuen	Cecilie Ersdal	3
PARAGUAY	National Veterinary Association: ASOVET S.L (Asociación de Veterinarios de San Lorenzo)	María Fátima Francia Acuña		1
PORTUGAL	Associação Portuguesa de Buiatria	Miguel Guaresma		2
SOUTH AFRICA	Ruminant Veterinary Association of South Africa	Rhoda Leask	Ken Pettey	3
SPAIN	Sociedad Espanola de Ovinotecnia Y Caprinotecnia	Maria Jesús Alcade Aldea	Delia Lacasta	3
SWEDEN	Sveriges Veterinärförbund	Karin Linkqvist Frisk	Katharina Gustafsson	1
SWITZERLAND	Schweizerische Vereinigung für Wiederkäuergesundheit	Erik Ingenhoff	Andreas Raemy	2
UNITED KINGDOM	Sheep Veterinary Society	Kim Hamer	Ian Gill	3
UNITED STATES	American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners	Clare Scully	Susan Meyers	2