



## **International Sheep Veterinary Association Special General Meeting - Minutes**

**November 25, 2021 (20:00 - 21:30 UTC)**

Approved at the General Meeting of the ISVA - March 6, 2023 Seville Spain

1. Welcome and Announcements - President
2. Approved - [Minutes](#) (pdf) of the 3rd Quadrennial General Meeting held in Harrogate, England
3. **President's Report** (President)

Jesse, Maria-Jesus and their organising committees must be congratulated on putting together an excellent virtual meeting during these difficult times. ISVA now have 26 member countries with voting powers. Membership is free so if you know of a country that would benefit from membership. Please ask them to fill in the application form at <http://www.intsheepvetassoc.org/membership-form>. Under the auspices of the Karl Linklater Award, for this meeting we have provided free registrations to delegates from lower income countries. At the time of writing 59 delegates from 11 countries have been offered registration. We applied for a Conference Grant and this month we heard "On behalf of the award committee, we are very pleased to inform you that after strict evaluation, you have been selected as the winner of the [Animals 2021 Academic Conference Grants](#).

This award of 2,000 CHF (~1900 Euros) should allow us to sponsor many more delegates. We are looking into the possibility of combining with another similar charity to benefit from gift aid on donations. We are grateful to Paula Menzies for stepping into the Secretary/Treasurer role when Ann Goplen had to give up this position. I must also thank Ann and the rest of the committee for their help over the past few years. I look forward to our 10th Congress in March 2023 when we can meet in person in Seville.

4. **Secretary's Report** (Secretary-Treasurer)

The Secretary took over from the previous secretary in the summer of 2019. Below are some of the initiatives headed by the Secretary with the input and assistance of the ISVA Committee.

### **Changes to evaluation of ISVC bids**

In the summer of 2020, a So-Go survey was conducted on-line to evaluate the criteria used to rank bids to host the International Sheep Veterinary Congress. All member country delegates were invited to complete the survey. The response rate was 75.7% (22 of 29 responded). These results were communicated to all delegates.

The ISVA committee reviewed the responses and made changes to the bid evaluation form. Please note that the form is used only to assist each member country in their deliberations to determine which bid is preferred.

#### **Update to the ISVA Congress Rules and Procedures**

This was updated in 2021 to reflect changes to the timing of the congress (triennial rather than quadrennial) and to better accommodate a virtual component to the Congress.

The [appendices](#) were also updated: 1. Bid Scoring Sheet referred to above; 2. ISVC Manuscript Guidelines; and, 3. ISVC Planning Timelines.

#### **Update to the ISVA Recommendations and Guidelines to Host ISVA Congresses**

The guidelines are to assist countries in developing a bid and if selected, to organize that bid. The document was revised based on feedback from experiences from previous congresses and also to take into account virtual meeting requirements. The ISVA committee also reviewed and made changes and clarifications.

#### **Updating Country Membership and Soliciting New Members**

The list of country delegates was firstly contacted to complete the SoGo Survey. Several delegates either didn't respond or indicated that a new delegate had been or should be appointed for that country. There appeared a need to clarify each country's information to make sure it meets the criteria for voting membership and to also approach other countries to determine if they qualify for voting membership. The following actions were taken:

- The on-line and paper membership form was updated to more clearly identify whether an applicant qualified for country member status.
- Voting countries were asked to update information including identifying the appropriate delegate and in many cases, a back-up person who could be contacted as well.
- Some countries lost voting membership because of one or more of the following reasons: the delegate did not respond to emails; the delegate did not represent a national veterinary association as defined by the constitution; when requested to correct a deficiency, the delegate did not respond. If a country lost its voting membership, every effort was taken to identify and contact a qualified association and delegate for that country although we were not always successful.
- The secretary took on the task of approaching countries with small ruminant associations but which were not yet member countries and encouraging them to apply. We had some success in that regard but need more.
- Additionally the number of votes each country may cast to determine the next ISVC host country, has been updated using the criteria provided in the ISVA constitution.
- The current list (as of May 2021) is provided at  
<http://www.intsheepvetassoc.org/membership-list>

Although ISVA membership is free, there is difficulty in identifying potential member countries and there are still significant countries missing from this list where we know there are many small ruminant veterinarians. To promote the international status of this association and of the congresses, it is important to have wider international participation. Any assistance to identify or solicit new member countries and delegates is appreciated.

#### **11<sup>th</sup> ISVC Bid Process**

Letters of invitation to bid on the 11<sup>th</sup> ISVC were sent to all ISVA members. While there were several countries that indicated an intent to submit, all but one country declined to follow-through for various reasons. The remaining country, Australia submitted an excellent bid and the ISVA committee met with the Australian bid committee to review it. The ISVA

committee recommended that Australia be awarded the 11<sup>th</sup> ISVC, to be held in Wollongong, New South Wales. March 10-14, 2025.

#### **Web Page**

We would like to thank the Richard Anderson and the New Zealand Veterinary Association for hosting the [ISVA website](#). This has been a very generous arrangement and is appreciated every day!

#### **Karl Linklater funds**

Currently the Karl Linklater funds are managed by the Sheep Veterinary Society UK. On the advice of the President, it was investigated if there was a method to have the ISVA become an international charity or to connect it to another international charity so as to be able to have the ISVA manage and dispense the funds. At this point, we have not been successful but continue to investigate.

#### **2021 ISVA Virtual Meeting - Sponsorship of applicants from lower income countries**

As mentioned in the President's Report, we were successful in winning sponsorship funds from Animals 2021 Academic Conference Grants. These funds, as well as the Karl Linklater funds have allowed us to sponsor 59 applicants (veterinarians, paraveterinarians and veterinary students) from 11 lower income countries from Africa and Central Asia. We used several ways to reach out to contact potential individuals and consider the response a success. Many thanks to those who assisted in this regard. However, for future meetings it would be ideal to better assure that all qualified countries and their small ruminant veterinarians are reached. Any suggestions are welcomed.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report (Secretary-Treasurer)**

The current Treasurer took over from the previous treasurer in the summer of 2019. ISVA funds were transferred to the CIBC (a Canadian bank with branches internationally) into a business chequing account suitable for non-profit associations in the spring of 2020. No bank fees are charged unless transactions exceed 10 per month.

The balance in Canadian funds is \$11,745.81. As of November 17, 2021 this amount is equivalent to:

- Euro - €8,232.52
- British Pound - £6,967.23
- US Dollar - \$9320.48

There is currently considerable volatility in the exchange rates.

No funds have been spent since the transfer.

We expect two bank transactions in the next few weeks:

1. A bank transfer from Animals as a result of winning the grant, in the amount of CHF 2,000 (approximately €1,900)
2. An invoice from Pacifico to pay the registration fees for 59 sponsored delegates (€30 X 59) = €1,700.

We investigated applying for charity status but given that the country of the Treasurer changes every three to four years, this wasn't done. Should we consider having a home country for the ISVA funds and applying for charity status in that country? This would require that the treasurer be located in one country.

Karl Linklater Fund - Information from the Sheep Veterinary Society that holds these funds  
The total at present is £6627.26. We have added £511.11 in the last 12 months. (Trisha Sutton)

6. Update on the 2023 10<sup>th</sup> ISVC (Delia Lacasta and María-Jesús Alcalde Aldea)
7. Presentation of the successful bid for the 2025 11<sup>th</sup> ISVC - Australia (Andrew Whale)
8. Any other relevant business at the President's discretion (10 minutes)
9. Adjourn - next meeting to be held at the 10<sup>th</sup> ISVC, 2023.



Ian Gill  
President



Paula Menzies  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Meeting Date - November 25, 2021**

Meeting Link will be sent before the meeting to delegates of each Member Country  
DST = daylight savings times

UTC	Example Locations	Local starting time (24 hour clock)
<b>-8</b>	Vancouver, California, western Mexico	12:00
<b>-7</b>	Alberta, Colorado, central Mexico	13:00
<b>-6</b>	Manitoba, Texas, eastern Mexico	14:00
<b>-5</b>	Ontario, Quebec, eastern USA, Caribbean, Columbia, Peru	15:00
<b>-4</b>	Nova Scotia, Venezuela	16:00
<b>-4 (DST)</b>	Chile	17:00
<b>-3</b>	Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay	17:00
<b>0</b>	UK, Portugal, Canary Islands, Cote d'Ivoire	20:00
<b>+1</b>	Western and central Europe, Norway, Algeria, Nigeria	21:00
<b>+2</b>	Finland, Ukraine, Greece, Israel, Egypt, South Africa	22:00
<b>+3</b>	Western Russia, Turkey, Iraq, Kenya (Iran = UTC +3.5)	23:00
<b>+5</b>	Pakistan	1:00 (26 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>+5.5</b>	India (Nepal = +5.75)	1:30 (26 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>+7</b>	Viet Nam, Indonesia	3:00 (26 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>+8</b>	China, Mongolia, Philippines, western Australia	4:00 (26 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>+9</b>	Japan, Korea	5:00 (26 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>+10</b>	Queensland (Australia)	6:00 (26 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>+10 (DST)</b>	New South Wales (Australia)	7:00 (26 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>+12 (DST)</b>	New Zealand	9:00 (26 <sup>th</sup> )