



Minutes ; ECOM meeting ; 24.10.2025  
Via zoom

Meeting opened; 1.39pm South Aust time

Present;

Present;  
SSAA Chair; David Lawrence  
SSAA Sec;  
SSAA Tres; Raelene Laidlaw  
SSQLD; Alexander Schoff, Karl Goodman  
SSNSW; Jeremy Southwell, Carla Boland  
SSTAS; Scott Jones, Jackson Jones  
SSVIC; Phillip Edwards, Tom Kelly  
SS SA; Steph Brooker Jones, Dave Brooker  
WACSA; Jenny Carter, Wes Baker  
Head Shearing Judge; Daryl Wallace  
Head Wool Handling Judge; Marion Kelly  
Immediate Past Chair; Tom Kelly

Guests;  
Guests; Michelle Scoff QLD, Craig French AWI, Bill Baldock Stockowners, Kellie Lockyer SS NSW Sec, Nicholas Hearn NSW, Stephen Russell NSW, Eileen Evans NSW, Michaela Laneyrie NSW, Don Mudford Parkdale SRS sponsor NSW, Paul Myers NSW, Jamie Waterman QLD, Tanya King QLD, Maxi Armistead Vic, Claire Lowe Vic, Peter Wingfield Vic, Darren bone Vic, Richard Hein SA, Steph Lunn Jamestown Committee, Matt Scharkie Jamestown Committee, Matt Stasinowsky SA, Garry Leerson Vic, Adrian Tuohey Vic, Jenny Tuohey Vic, Evelyn Archer TAS, Beau Growden SA,

Apologies; Trevor Bacon SS SA , Tammy Mudford SSAA Sec.

Item	Details	Follow up
1.	<p>Welcome Chairman</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHAIRMANS REPORT</b></p> <p>Sports Shear Australia Association Inc Chairmans report AGM Jamestown South Australia October 24th, 2025 Welcome Sponsors, ECOM members, committee members and guests. 2025 has been another exciting year with interests from both Dubbo and Geelong putting forward submissions for hosting the 2029 Golden Shears World Championships. It's been over 20 years since we last held a World event at Toowoomba in 2005 and prior to that was Perth in 1986. On behalf on Sports Shear Australia a big thank you to our sponsors AWI, Stockowners Shearing, Parkdale SRS poll merino stud, Fox and Lillie and Alexander Schoff who have generously supported us throughout the year and for the national event this weekend. Through the tough time of sheep numbers decreasing, it is fantastic to see competitor numbers holding firm throughout the year. The Trans-Tasman teams have represented Australia to the highest of levels with excellent results amongst all the three different events. 2026 will see a change in the Trans-Tasman due to the Golden shear's world event being hosted by Masterton New Zealand. Woolhandling Trans-Tasman will be held</p>	



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	<p>at Balclutha show South Island NZ February 14th and a week later the machine shears event at Gore NZ. This brings the issue of managers staying over for an extended time or do we now use this situation and include the Judges as a stand in manager for 2026 thus eliminating this major expense of accommodating a manager.</p> <p>Thank you to the Judges and manager who represented SSAA at Masterton earlier this year.</p> <p>This year is a qualifying event for the World team selection. Jamestown will be supplying a variation in stock with both crossbred and merinos to be used in the qualifying rounds.</p> <p>A big thank you to Matt Scharkie, Steph Lunn and all the committee at Jamestown for hosting their second National event in three years. With a new 3 stand wool handling board this will be an exciting event with the best competitors from all states wanting that elusive win.</p> <p>2025 we welcomed Queensland as a member of SSAA. I had the opportunity of attending Warwick and Tara shows in Qld early this year and a credit to this new association on their achievements of pointing their state on an exciting pathway.</p> <p>After some years of discussions and negotiations Campbelltown Tasmania has taken possession of a new shearing and woolhandling facility at the local show grounds. From photos I have seen it looks amazing. I wish Sports Shear Tasmania all the best on the new facility and hopefully we may see a national event soon.</p> <p>All states are urged to include every show committee in the decisions that form your association. It is these show committees who put in the time and effort to set up and run events and it is extremely important that they are included in all decisions. No association operates without difference of opinions within, but over recent years it seems to be increasing with factions within states. I encourage all associations to operate within their constitutions and decisions made are of the best interest of our industry and Sports Shear Australia</p> <p>This leads me to selection of managers, Judges and committee members. These positions are all voluntary and, in our selections, today I urge all ECOM members to vote for those dedicated to being the best ambassador to our association. These positions are quite demanding, and the importance of fitness and capabilities overrides any personal gains.</p> <p>The decision on who will put forward a submission to the Golden shears' world council rests on you here today and I ask that we stand by and support the successful applicant. It is important that we back Australia to get this submission over the line.</p> <p>Finally thank you to Tammy Mudford who stepped in at the last minute as a secretary. With your own personal work commitments, it's been difficult for you to juggle, thank you.</p> <p>Raelene thanks for stepping up and assisting Tammy and for all the behind the scenes organizing and coordinating. It doesn't go unnoticed Thank you.</p> <p>As the season draws to close , I'm looking forward to the weekend events .</p> <p>Many Thanks David Lawrence Chairman SSAA 2025</p>	
2.	Minutes of ECOM meeting held Sept 14th 2025	
	<p>These were emailed out after the meeting and also again prior to this meeting.</p> <p>Any questions?</p> <p>Moved Raelene Laidlaw ass sec for meeting</p> <p>Second Phillip Edwards SS VIC</p>	
Minutes		
3.	<p>Treasurer Report ;</p> <p>Opening Balance at 13.09.2025.2025; \$23,492.25</p> <p>Closing SSAA balance as 21.10.2025; \$15,876.75</p> <p>Term deposit balance as of 15.07.2025; <b>\$83,885.04</b></p> <p><b>Unpaid Invoiced amounts 14.10.2025        \$23,500.00</b></p> <p>Moved- Raelene Laidlaw</p> <p>Sec- Phillip Edwards SS VIC</p>	
Minutes		
4.	<p>Correspondence In ;</p> <p>14.09.2025 Minutes for ECOM meeting emailed out to all states</p> <p>15.09.2025 Catering for AGM at Jamestown</p> <p>19.09.2025 Confirmation that Jamestown lunch for ECOM at 11.30 followed by AGM 12pm</p> <p>21.09.2025 Follow up with NZ manager on progress of Trans Tasman team</p>	



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	<p>22.09.2025 Gordon Duxfield updated on NZ team so far          24.09.2025 Forsyths client service agreement and invoice          28.09.2025 Notice of AGM to all ECOM and sponsors          02.10.2025 NSW sports shear nomination forms          03.10.2025 WACSA change to team member          09.10.2025 QLD sports shear nomination form          09.10.2025 South Aust sports shear nomination form          10.10.2025 South Aust sports shear nomination form          10.10.2025 WACSA sports shear nomination forms          10.10.2025 Vic sports shear nomination forms          10.10.2025 Vic sports shear Letter of support for Geelong World submission          10.10.2025 AWI accept dinner invitation          10.10.2025 National Wool judge report          11.10.2025 Email from SSAA Chair catching up          14.10.2025 NZ team details and profiles.          15.10.2025 Dubbo submission to host worlds.</p>	
5.	<p><b>Correspondence out</b>          14.09.2025 Minutes for ECOM meeting emailed out to all states          15.09.2025 Catering for AGM at Jamestown          19.09.2025 Confirmation that Jamestown lunch for ECOM at 11.30 followed by AGM 12pm          21.09.2025 Follow up with NZ manager on progress of Trans Tasman team          14.10.2025 NZ team profiles to Steph Lunn Jamestown</p>	
	<p><b>Raelene Laidlaw moves this correspondence be accepted</b>  <b>Seconded by – Carla Boland SS NSW</b></p>	
6.	<p><b>Sponsors</b>  <b>AWI</b> ; handed out the amounts Good young talent coming through. Training is contributing to the juniors Thanks to Jamestown for hosting again thanks to committees and Dave Lawrence and Raelene Laidlaw. AWI has reduced our sponsorship to state teams. Last year \$75,000 back now to \$36,000 most areas are cut back. Committed to Sports Shear going forward. Great to see there are a couple of submissions for a Worlds. Wish everyone a great weekend. AWI are not walking away from Sports Shear but the funding has got to come from the AWI levy going back to 2%. So when speaking with wool growers its important to push for the levy to be increased.</p> <p><b>Stockowners</b>; Bill thanks to Matt, Steph, and Jamestown committee for all their work in getting ready for nationals.  <b>To Sports Shear Australia,</b>          We would like a few minutes of your time to address some issues we have as a major sponsors of Sports Shear Australia and the National Competition.          Over the years we have found countless times issues keep occurring and sponsorship agreements/ contract have not been adhered too/ breached.          To begin with, I want to quote a paragraph from our sponsorship agreement with Sprot Shear Australia, which reads;  <b>"Stockowners Shearing Australia will be the exclusive shearing manufacturer and retailer to S.S.A.A. and no other shearing manufacturer or retailer will be able to attend, advertise or canvas at any sport shear show, without the express permission of Stockowners Shearing Australia".</b>          We find hosting committees are not being made aware of what sponsorship agreements are in place and what guidelines they need to follow.          With the upcoming event this weekend, there has been promotion of products, raffles and companies that are in direct competition to Stockowners Shearing Australia and other major sponsors and we have also been made aware that certain raffles from companies in competition to Stockowners Shearing will be drawn during a Stockowners Shearing sponsored event. This is unacceptable and needs to be resolved immediately with the hosting committee, as in today before the event starts.          Another point to add is that constantly there is competition shearing manufacturers or retailers at the Australia National Shearing and Wool handling Championships, and we believe this id due to hosting committees not knowing / understanding the sponsorship agreements that companies have in place with Sports Shear Australia.          We do not receive communication leading up/ in advance to the event asking for permission from these companies / committees if they are allowed to attend.          We are frustrated with this consistently happening and Stockowners Shearing Australia not the exclusive manufacturer and retailer at the championships. We suggest that hosting committees/ Sports Shear states know the sponsorship requirements that major sponsors have with Sports Shear Australia.          In relation to the above paragraph, Stockowners Shearing Australia provides shearing plants for the National Shearing and Wool handling Championships and Sports Shear events. We will not be taking down our shearing plants during this weekend as it is a Sports Shear vent and we want this weekend to be exclusive to Stockowners Shearing Australia.          The other issue is the promotion of the National Shearing Championships. This issue affects not only Stockowners Shearing Australia, but also Sports Shear Australia and other Sports Shear Australia major Sponsors i.e.AWI, Fox and Lillie, Parkdale etc, There has been constant promotion of competition companies/ businesses to your major</p>	<p>Extra notes from Craig</p> <p>Itemise a list for host committees for all areas that need to be covered in preparing for hosting.</p>



	<p>sponsors. The promotion has been labelled as ; Sports Shear Australia Shearing and Wool Handling Championships 2025' with promotion of companies as major sponsors, which are not major Sports Shear Australia sponsors. We understand certain companies need to be mentioned during promotion of the event i.e. the sheep supplier or if a company has helped build something for the event, but we believe they should not be promoted as major sponsor of the Australia National Shearing and Wool handling Championships.</p> <p>Stockowners ask that Sprots Shear Australia notifies the official commentators of the event the requirements as per our sponsorship agreement /contract, which states; "Stockowners Shearing Australia needs to be mentioned at least once every 30 mins over any commentary during the National Championships' and there is to be no mention of other shearing manufacturers or retailers during the Australia National Shearing and Wool handling Championships events. We will provide information about our company if required to make it easier for commentators.</p> <p>We just want to comment that we are proud of being a major sponsor of Sprots Sehar Australia for 15 + years. As some of you may know, Rick unfortunately has been diagnosed with Behavioural Variant Frontotemporal Dementia and has been requ4red to medically retire. Bill and Melissa will continue supporting Sports Shear Australia nd shows around Australia.</p> <p>Rick has loved Sports Shear and has worked tireless hours driving around Australia to Sport Shear events – providing shearing equipment and helping with judging or scoring at the events. Rick wishes all competitors, judges, and organisers the best at the 2025 Shearing and Wool Handling Championships.</p> <p>Read out by Bill Baldock.</p> <p><b>Parkdale SRS</b> – happy to be involved with SSAA Australia wide. Do see other sponsors put in amounts and all shows need to be aware to keep promoting.</p> <p><b>Alexander Schoff</b> – Novice Wool Handling ,</p> <p><b>Fox and Lillie</b> -</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jamestown committee will look to the timing of the raffle to not conflict.</li> <li>- To run an event takes about \$30,000 to start up, o sponsorship is essential.</li> <li>- Jamestown would like to suggest a more detailed manual to hand over to potential hosts to give more detail in the requirements and restrictions.</li> <li>- Jamestown debrief</li> </ul>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>State Reports; Reports request for every 6mths to send in a written report.</p> <p><b>SSQLD</b> – - <i>I do know a few faces in the room as I have been away for 15yrs. 2 shows Warwick and Tara shows. 20 Members in SS QLD. Thanks for Dave for coming to assist in helping us set up again. There is a lot of enthusiasm. The season in QLD has also helped as there are a lot of lambs on the ground. Possible that Charleville will run in 2026. A long way to go but really confident in the team we have in QLD and here at Nationals.</i></p> <p><b>SSNSW – State Report</b></p> <p><i>The NSW Team is all organised and excited for Nationals! A big thank you to the Jamestown Committee for their efforts - we're all looking forward to what promises to be a fantastic weekend of competition. NSW has held successful fundraisers leading up to Nationals, raising around \$14,000 to support our representatives with travel, uniforms, and accommodation. A huge thank you goes to everyone who donated, volunteered, or attended events - your support has made this possible. To strengthen our financial processes, NSW has opened a separate bank account dedicated to Nationals. The committee voted on a set team allocation for 2025, with the remaining funds to be held in reserve for future years - helping to reduce the pressure of annual fundraising and providing a safety net for any unforeseen circumstances. We are currently working on updates to the Rules and Guidelines for Nationals, which will be presented and voted on at the 2026 AGM. These updates will include clearer budget guidelines, competitor information, and other key details to ensure consistency and transparency across future events</i></p> <p><i>We have see Good luck to everyone over the weekend!</i></p> <p><b>Kind Regards,</b> <b>NSW Sports Shear Executive</b></p> <p><b>SSVIC</b> – SSV remains in a healthy state despite the challenges of dry weather and declining sheep numbers SSV welcomed a new young chairman Mr Phillip Edward's in July at our AGM A working committee was elected SSV look to host 16 competitions for 25/26 season across Victoria. Many of these shows host both shearing wool handling. Wool handling being run at competitions Boort and Geelong for the first time. Healthy competitor numbers both shearing and wool handling. A points system with a state final day conducted at sheep and wool show at Bendigo</p>	



A very competitive open competition which sees various competitors capable of winning on any given event

A strong development grade pathway is seeing competitors develop quickly

Always keen to see and welcome new people as volunteers' and judges etc

As we come together to prepare a world championship team, SSV wish all states, competitors, and team members they very best in competition.

**SSTAS – To:** *Sports Shear Australia Via: Ecom Meeting @ Jamestown 2025 Sports Shear Tasmania is well into our new season of shows. The Campbell Town Show in June hosted our State Team Finals on the Friday, followed by the first show of the new season on Saturday, kicking off points scoring for our members for 2025–2026. Next was the Oatlands Show in August, which celebrated its second year and was again a great success. We look forward to supporting their event in the years to come. Our upcoming shows include Westbury, Brighton, Scottsdale, Chudleigh, and Hamilton. As a small state, we continue to push for new shows every chance we get. We are proud to have a strong group of organizers and passionate people in the industry who keep these events alive, well supported with entries, and backed by generous sponsors. A special mention must go to our volunteer judges and helpers, both competitive and non-competitive, who give up entire days, and often time beforehand, to help with planning and running our events. We are truly fortunate to have such supportive and dedicated people in these roles who consistently show up for the sport. Our 2024–2025 season was very successful and well supported, with a strong team of 22 competitors and judges who are now looking forward to Nationals in Jamestown in October 2025. A Judges Workshop was held in June at Quorn Hall, Campbell Town, and was well attended by many judges and competitors keen to build their skills and knowledge. Many thanks to Marion and Tom Kelly for traveling over to Tassie and leading the workshop for the day. At our State Finals in Campbell Town, competition was fierce, with our top competitors in fine form. We extend our thanks to S&K Shearing for sponsoring flights for Moera Hammonds, who joined us on State Finals day and again on Saturday for the first show of the season. It was a pleasure to have Moera with us, sharing her skills and knowledge. We thank her sincerely for taking the time to come over to Tassie and hope she enjoyed her visit as much as we enjoyed having her. We were also joined by the late Phill Venning, who had supported our events numerous times over the years. Phill always enjoyed visiting Tassie, especially for the Campbell Town Show. Whether he was cleaning, setting up, judging, or having a chat, he made every event brighter. We are grateful for his dedication and friendship over the years. Our hearts go out to his family and friends, he will be greatly missed here in Tassie. Rest in peace, Phill. We look forward to Nationals 2025 in Jamestown, SA, and wish each state and every competitor the very best of luck. A huge thanks to the organizing committee for their tireless work in making this event possible, and to all judges and helpers for their ongoing support and dedication throughout the weekend. All the best ~ go TASSIE! On behalf of the Sports Shear Tasmania Committee and Members* **Regards Scott Jones Sports Shear Tasmania President**

**SSSA..**

*Apologies from Trevor Bacon. This year saw a Stand alone state final for wool at Kauunda. State points established in 2025. Competitors can only enter 1 event. Clare new wool handing comp went really well couple new shows coming on board. Angaston, and King Island. Having some trouble with encouraging new Judges.*

**WACSA –**

**West Australian Competition Shearing Association AGM Report**

WACSA's Annual General Meeting was conducted in mid-February. As per the norm there was some changes in office bearers, with Len Simmons taking on the role of President. Of significance was an update of our constitution to reflect current practice and to align with the Act – long overdue as previous constitution was dated 2009.

WACSA's circuit runs on a financial year. For the 2025-26 year, we have had increased numbers at all shows, especially in the wool handling. We held a fundraiser/workshop at Joe and Brendan Hickey's farm near Narambeen in August. Apart from a fantastic day with many local shearers and wool handlers helping us out and many more popping in to say hello, and some good money being raised, WACSA has gained additional competitors and judges on the circuit. The aging population of our judges is a concern.

Competitions held so far this season have been at Corrigin, Koorda, Perth Royal and Kojonup.

Katanning where the Nationals were held last year is this weekend, with Boddington and Dinninup coming up.

Damien Boyle has taken on the role of President of Katanning Shears and for the first time for many years has declined his position on the WA team. We have a strong WA team with a mix of experience



	<p>and fresh blood. As well as wishing our team the best, we extend good wishes to all competitors, judges, managers etc etc. Thank you to the Jamestown Committee for welcoming us all and hosting this fantastic event where Australia's best gather to compete and network.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>Australian Team manager to NZ 2025</b> Submitted early in year.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p><b>HEAD WOOL HANDLING JUDGE REPORT</b> AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL HEAD WOOL HANDLING JUDGE REPORT October 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the Jamestown committee &amp; the Volunteers that have been working on the venue which will host the National Championships for shearing &amp; wool handling competitions. A lot of work goes into making such an event happen. Also a huge thank you for building the new 3 stand wool board. I wish them all the best for their efforts, time &amp; dedication in the running's over the coming weekend.</li> <li>• Thanks to Raelene for all your hard work that you do. Updating the rules, zoom meetings for the state head wool judges, protocols committee just to name a few. I appreciate your time &amp; support very much so.</li> <li>• Congratulations &amp; well done to all the states &amp; their committees in hosting there many shows for competitors for state finals &amp; selections of there state team to head to the Nationals in Jamestown SA. I wish you all the best in competition &amp; look forward to working with you over the National weekend.</li> <li>• To our Australian team that competed in Masterton NZ earlier this year. Alexander Schoff &amp; Tiffany Collins, the wool handlers along with Fluff Hodge the wool judge &amp; Nathan Meaney, Daniel McIntyre &amp; Jamie Boothman along with Tom Kelly the shearing judge &amp; team manager Stuart Grigg. I hope you all had a good experience &amp; here's hoping the team will have a good outcome on our Australian turf.</li> <li>• All head state judges were sent a copy of the wool handling rules &amp; guidelines on the 1/9/25 to review and suggest changes. On the 14/9/25 a zoom meeting was held with all head state judges &amp; all recommendations were discussed and noted for amendments. All states were in favour. (A copy of the original &amp; amended / updated wool handling rules &amp; guidelines are attached &amp; also the minutes from the meeting)</li> <li>• Suggested that the rules are dated in line with the AWEX COP dates &amp; have a version control at the footer. Also suggested that state head wool judges send in to the National head wool judge a continuous improvement list to be reviewed &amp; amendments made inline with the AWEX COP</li> <li>• On the 14/9/25 a protocols zoom meeting was held and the wool handling rules and guidelines were ratified. (A copy of the minutes are attached). Changes made for shearing &amp; wool rules: blood rule, no catcher in the pen when shearing &amp; wool are running together</li> <li>• We had our head state wool judge zoom meeting in September. Discussions on – state wool judge reps &amp; experience, roster (rotations if time permits, no judging of family members), dress code for the weekend, teamwork, rules &amp; guidelines. Finally, I look forward to working with you all over the weekend, seeing all state teams competing and the wool judges working as a team. Have a great weekend.</li> </ul> <p>Regards Australian National Head Wool Handling Judge <i>Marion Kelly</i></p> <p><b>HEAD SHEARING JUDGE REPORT 2024</b></p> <p><b>National Shearing Judge Report, Jamestown 2025</b> I'd like to begin by welcoming all the shearing judges that have made themselves available to participate in this, a shearing and wool handling event which represents the pinnacle of our sport for the year. It will be good to catch up with some familiar faces as well as meeting and getting to know some newer ones.</p> <p>Events like this present the perfect opportunity for us all to gather and discuss how our past year of judging at our state and local shows across the country has built on our experience and given us perspective with relation to where our sport is and could be heading. With this in mind, the Protocols Committee have been busy in the background further developing one of our rules which shall be presented to the ECOM later for consideration. With the able assistance Raelene Laidlow, the rules have been gone over in what is purely an approach to remove any grammatical errors and update terminology. This hasn't changed any rules but has only been done to hopefully remove any ambiguities and lead to a clearer understanding and interpretation of the rules.</p>	



	<p>In conclusion I would just like to wish all involved over the weekend the best of luck in their endeavours and I hope that you all enjoy this weekend whilst it is the culmination of the last twelve months of hard work, this weekend also represents a celebration of our sport, its history and all of those that contribute throughout the year be they competing, officiating, providing the sheep, penning up, or providing the venue and equipment for the hosting of shearing competitions across this great country.</p> <p><b>Daryl Wallace</b>  <b>Head Shearing Judge.</b></p>	
10.	<p>Protocols</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should Sports Shear Australia Ass head judges be able to hold the same position at state level? <b>Current protocols only list Chair, Sec and Treas. Do not hold the same position in the SSAA executive and their state.</b></li> <li>• Update of protocols, constitution and rules to reflect development grades throughout regarding National events?</li> </ul>	
Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leave the wording to be Chair, Sec and Treas, as the only roles that can not be held in your state.</li> <li>- Handling of blood rule which is effecting more the wool handling. Introducing of blood rule in both the shearing and wool rules. This is to address bio hazard of exchange of blood.</li> <li>- Protocols move the wording of the blood rule be included in shearing and wool rules</li> <li>- Sec Wes Baker</li> <li>- Protocols move the updated the V1 of Wool handling rules 2025 – 2027 be in line with AWEX code of practice. To be adopted as at 24.10.2025 All in favor.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	
11.	<p>Business arising from ECOM Sept 14th 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time clock to come up at AGM</li> <li>• National judges perhaps to be paid for by the National committee?</li> <li>• <b>Trans-Tasman venue for New Zealand leg 2026</b>  Worlds Masterton, NZ 2026 (4 – 7 March)  Trans-Tasman Challenge –  Wool Handling 13-14 Feb at Balcutha;  Shearing 20-21 Feb at Gore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECOM to set an amount per team member for travel and expenses.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Protocols in relation to judges for the National event.</b>  A state will consist of two woolhandling judges and two shearing judges. Any further judges required will be sourced from the host state. A discussion on do we need to raise this to three judges from each state for each discipline to keep a fair and honest competition.</li> <li>• From SSVic - Nationals to not be run on the same weekend every year its clashing with some of our shows and they have asked to try and not have it like that.</li> <li>• Warrnambool nationals 2026 letter attached to this agenda,</li> <li>• Geelong show submission for Nationals in 2027.</li> <li>• Barraba Sports Shear Committee submission for Nationals 2028</li> <li>• Geelong will be submitting a bid for world council @ the AGM in Jamestown , please see attached documents to the agenda</li> <li>• Dubbo Show submission for Worlds</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/g9z5b82kizu2d9dmtmf7a/Dubbo-Bid-for-Worlds.zip?rlkey=6dlq5xphwusum6d40euk3n0e3&amp;st=5pjjmfp5&amp;dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/g9z5b82kizu2d9dmtmf7a/Dubbo-Bid-for-Worlds.zip?rlkey=6dlq5xphwusum6d40euk3n0e3&amp;st=5pjjmfp5&amp;dl=0</a></li> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program for Jamestown SA National Championships – Could the Disputes Committee be listed into the program, like the Katanning WA National Championships program had</li> <li>• The SSAA Wool Handling rules &amp; guidelines 2025-2027 have been reviewed &amp; amended with recommendations by the Australian head wool judge and the state head wool judges.</li> <li>• A meeting with all involved to finalise and take to the Protocols committee for ratification is to be held. The new addition to be used at the Jamestown SA National Championships 2025</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	
<p>Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 show in Vic to be invoiced at \$100 per show. Cost to up keep is considerable. Rent out for <b>SS SA increase to \$250 Sec SS TAS</b></li> <li>• Due to reduced funding to states do the Aust judges get funded by the National funding? Need more sponsors by the National body to be able to cover this extra. <b>SS SA move the National body cover the cost of the Australian team members to attend National events. Sec SS TAS – passed.</b></li> <li>• <b>Rescind above motion</b></li> <li>• <b>SS SA move the National body cover the cost of the Australian team judges and mangers to attend National events. Team members (shearers and wool handlers) who are not part of selected state team will be covered to attend National events by SSAA. Sec ; SS TAS</b></li> <li>• <b>Motion SS NSW Carla Leave at 2 now with an option 3 to bring an extra judge of shearing and/or wool handling judge, up to the state to cover the cost of this extra. Sec SS SA all in favour.</b></li> <li>• There is not much that can be</li> <li>• Set amount for \$1200 for airfares for Aust team members –</li> <li>• SSAA hire car –</li> <li>• Accom – NZ pay 4 nights - Aust pay 1 night</li> <li>• Warrnambool Nationals 2026 <b>All in favour</b></li> <li>• Geelong Nationals 2027 <b>All in favour</b></li> <li>• Barraba 2028 <b>to be notified at later date as more discussion and investigation to happen</b></li> <li>• Geelong Worlds - Maxi and Garry spoke on Geelong Worlds submission. Dates Wed 31<sup>st</sup> Oct- Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> 2028. All states were given a brochure from Geelong with supporting documents. <i>Meeting notes Hi everyone, I'm Maxi Armistead and I am the secretary for the Royal Geelong Show Shearing Committee, I'm here with Gary Leersen our Chair. Today we will be taking you through why Geelong is the ideal location for the Golden Shears World Championships. The shearing shed at the Geelong Showgrounds is a large venue, spanning 2160m2 with a potential to seat over 3000 spectators. Our 2025 Royal Geelong Shearing Show was completed last weekend on our 4 stand shearing board and separate 2 stand wool handling board. This event was a fantastic success, with 70 machine shearers and 30 wool handlers competing. In the coming months, the shed will be modified to house a 6 stand shearing board and separate 3 stand wool handling facility. We have no doubt that when completed, these will be world class facilities. We have access to excellent fine wool merinos, farmed by local woolgrower Tom McCann in Fyansford, just a 15 minute drive from the Showgrounds. Our proposed date for the World Shears in 2029 is Wednesday 31st of October to Saturday 3rd November. These dates are nestled in between major tourism events in Victoria, the Royal Geelong Show, Geelong Cup, various local Sport Shear competitions and of course the Melbourne cup. Alongside this, Geelong is in close proximity to the great ocean road, Bellarine peninsula and Melbourne city. This will give spectators and competitors alike an abundance of travel and entertainment opportunities while they're in town. There is no doubt that Geelong would have no issue housing the world's teams and spectators for the World Championships event. With over 400 hire cars available, an extensive public transport system and the possibility to house 41 500 visitors with over 6000 hotel rooms alone (not including caravan parks and holiday houses). The Geelong Showgrounds are centrally located, next door to the Geelong Racecourse and a 5 minute drive from the CBD. Geelong is just one hour from Melbourne by road or train, and only 20 minutes from Avalon airport. Making it one of Australia's most accessible regional destinations. Gary has just handed out our full submission for the world council, included are letters of support from various organisations, all we need to add is a letter of endorsement from Sport Shear Australia Our committee is eager and passionate, and incredibly excited about the possibility of hosting this event. It would be a massive honour for not only Geelong, but Victoria and Australia as a whole. We would like to thank you for considering our proposal and would now like to take any questions.</i></li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dubbo Worlds - Don Mudford, since 2019 when Dubbo held Nationals, we have been working toward hosting a worlds. Run the videos that are submitted . All states were handed a folder with supporting documents. Catering and bar sorted 20 stands around the district for practice stands for competitors. March / April time frame but governed by Worlds to preference. 1 ½ yr old ewes with 10mths wool. accommodation and travel needs to be covered perhaps Financial support from SSAA – Dubbo have 5,000 beds. Air, train and bus services from Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. Dubbo have variety of meal options.</li> <li>States had discussion and – Great we have 2 nominations, would be great to have at least 1 submission will present to the World council in Masterton. In 2026 there looks to be at least 3 other submissions from Northern Hemisphere for 2026. Geelong – accommodation, Melbourne cup are positives. Both great submissions. More beneficial financially for SSAA to go Geelong. Dubbo will have a line of stock that will be all the same age group.</li> <li>Geelong unanimous vote for SSAA to submission to worlds 2029</li> <li>Thanks to Don and his committee for their submission.</li> </ul>	
12.	General Business;	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSAA Wool Handling Rules &amp; Guidelines have been updated &amp; brought into line with AWEX COP dates. All State Head Wool Judges were involved in the update; all agreed with changes. They were ratified at the Protocols meeting. They need to be passed. Can they be used at the National weekend in Jamestown SA (attach the current &amp; new one in)</li> <li>The blood rule is the same for wool handling and shearing rules (maybe could copy the rule in) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <i>If a shearer cuts themselves or blood from the shearer can be seen, the wool handler must stop competing and the head wool judge called.</i></li> <li>b. <i>If a wool handler is cut or blood from that wool handler can be seen, the wool handler must stop competing and seek first aid.</i></li> <li>c. <i>A wool handler who has stopped competing due to the blood rule will not have their points calculated and organisers will offer another heat to compete in where sheep numbers allow and at head judge’s discretion. Where possible an average score may be calculated.</i></li> <li>d. <i>Any wool that has human blood must be treated as a biohazard and carefully isolated.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>No catcher / tipper when wool handling and shearing events are in conjunction with each other. Applies in wool handling &amp; shearing rules ( maybe could copy the rule in) <i>Shearers are not to have a catcher in the pen if shearing and wool handling is running in conjunction / together. The shearer may have a pen mate who prevents sheep from escaping for the purpose of safety. (Up to 5 penalties per occurrence)</i></li> <li>Hosting state to supply top up judges for shearing &amp; wool handling over the National weekend. Could it be a requirement / agreement that it has to be at least 3 / 4 of each to be supplied &amp; confirmed, so the head judges can organise their roster &amp; place judges</li> </ul>	
Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Friday 11.30am – 1.30pm Workshop for all states development teams - Shannon Warnest –</li> <li><b>Mover SS NSW Carla Boland</b> it has to be at least 3 / 4 of each support judges to be supplied &amp; confirmed, so the head judges can organise their roster &amp; place judges . <b>Sec Tom Kelly SS VIC All in favour.</b></li> <li>Potential for future events to have points displayed for wool handlers. Similar to the shearing points display system</li> </ul>	
13.	Nationals; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jamestown Oct 24<sup>th</sup> , 25<sup>th</sup> , 26<sup>th</sup> 2025</li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photographer</li> <li>• National Dinner – Main and dessert for the meal. Tickets available on line</li> <li>• Uniform for Shearing and Wool judges</li> <li>• <b>Saturday</b> will be State uniform (state shirt) Black pants / skirts , covered in foot wear for all judges. No Caps for any judges. Shirts tucked in for male judges.</li> <li>• <b>Sunday</b> will be SSAA shirt. Black pants / skirts , covered in foot wear for all judges. No Caps for any judges. Shirts tucked in for male judges.</li> <li>• No ties for judges until we are able to get uniform set of ties. Perhaps SSAA can purchase a set of ties that then are sold to judges.</li> <li>• <b>Shearers workshop</b> Friday 11.30am – 1.30pm Shannon Warnest – All teams must attend, run through rules, and techniques, how to read score sheet,</li> <li>• <b>Wool teams</b> will be briefed individually and a Wool Judges meeting</li> <li>• <b>Roster</b> for teams practice and judges briefing</li> <li>• <b>Friday morning 11.30am light lunch - AGM and ECOM</b></li> <li>• <b>Medallions</b> – being ordered</li> <li>• <b>Disputes committee to be printed in program</b> – Head judges, independent person, local person that knows the rules.</li> <li>• <b>Shearing for Open National 1 round of crossbred and 1 round of Merino</b> – For Finals Mixed breed final 8 and 8 . If Merino 12, If crossbred 20</li> <li>• <b>Composite ewe and Merino for shearing</b></li> <li>• <b>Wool is all Merino</b></li> <li>•</li> </ul>	
	<p>Photographer – Tracey Jewell, Jenni Case??? Check they are available  Dinner main and dessert to this year be held at the showgrounds.  Judges shirt sizes to be sent.  Nationals – disputes committee. Table numbers to be co ordinated to run left to right on both shearing and wool boards to ensure continuity for recording of scores.</p>	
14.	<p>GSWC meeting report  Golden Shears World Council  Proposed meeting for early September 2025 further details to come  Tom Kelly and Dave Lawrence attended a zoom meeting</p>	
Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Phillip Morrison – Split 6 person wool final is the normal but – NZ will be having a 4 wool handling final. May need to send an item for World AGM agenda if we would like to see the 6 final. Needs to be submitted 4 mths out from the World AGM.</li> <li>- Criteria where countries are running min 4 competitions per annum. Some countries are not happy with this.</li> <li>- 14 member countries.</li> <li>- Possible that every 10 yrs all countries including founding members may need to reapply for membership.</li> <li>- Nationality eligibility – you must be a citizen and resident of the country you represent.</li> <li>- SSAA Shearing judge rule 15mm thumb nail penalty but world rules is 10mm</li> <li>- Advertising on competition clothing – Name of sponsor can only be Credit card size</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission to Worlds needs to vote on 6 finalist for open wool finals. SSAA agree to submit a remit to world council</li> </ul>	
	Meeting Close; 3.41pm South Aust time.	

**Next Meeting;** , Next meeting

**ECOM meeting Venue;**  
**EST in person and via zoom ;**



*Sports Shear Australia Association Inc.*

Expression of interest from Warrnambool to host Nationals 2026.

Lisa Wardlaw

Sec /Tres. SSV

Dear David and Committee,

I am writing to express the interest of Warrnambool X-Bred Shears in conjunction with Warrnambool Agricultural Society hosting the National Shearing and Wool Handling Championships in 2026.

Warrnambool X-Bred Shears, formally known as (Warrnambool Romney Shears) has been running since early 1980's and become a Sport Shears Event in 1987. We have a very strong committee and worker base and believe we can host a successful 2025 event. Warrnambool X-Bred Shears have also successfully worked in conjunction with the Committee of 24-Hour Shear-a-Thon over the past 6 years raising over \$200,000 from 3 events for local Charities/Organisations. We have a strong Committee and a great base of volunteers that make these amazing events happen.

Our proposed dates for the National Shearing and Wool Handling Championships of 2026, would be as follows:

- Thursday, SSAA AGM pre-dinner, Welcome dinner.
- Friday, Warrnambool X-Bred Shears/Blade Shears (Day)/Trans-Tasman Shears (Friday night).
- Saturday, National Program.

Warrnambool Showground is an amazing facility close to the CBD, Accommodation, Restaurants and Family Entertainment. The facility has access to toilets, showers, grinding areas and area for judges/officials to eat/meeting room. There is a toilet area for officials along with a kitchen facility.

Warrnambool X-Bred Shears have access to the required sheep to meet the National protocol for shearing and wool handling competitions. Warrnambool showgrounds have a six (6) stand, raised board shed. We are prepared to accommodate an additional three (3) stand for Wool Handling competitions.

Warrnambool X-Bred Shears Committee are prepared to work alongside the National Committee to host a successful event in 2026.

We look forward to hearing back from you.

Kind Regards,

Roger Mifsud

Mr David Lawrence  
Chairman, Sports Shear Australia



Dear Mr Lawrence,

On behalf of the Barraba Sports Shear Committee, I am writing to formally express our interest in hosting the 2028 Sports Shear Nationals in Barraba.

Over the past two years, our committee has proudly run two days of competitive shearing, following a highly successful inaugural single-day event the year prior. These events have not only demonstrated our committee's strong organisational capabilities but have also highlighted the remarkable engagement and enthusiasm of our local community. The excitement generated around these competitions underscores Barraba's capacity to host a national-level event.

Barraba has a rich history as a significant sheep-producing region, and hosting the Nationals here would celebrate this heritage while providing an exceptional experience for competitors and spectators alike. Our purpose-built raised board facility ensures a safe, professional, and spectator-friendly environment, meeting the highest standards required for major shearing competitions. Combined with our passionate committee and community support, this facility positions Barraba as an ideal venue for the Nationals.

We are enthusiastic about the opportunity to showcase Barraba as a premier location for competitive shearing and are confident that our proven track record, purpose-built facilities, and strong community engagement make us a capable and committed host for the 2028 Sports Shear Nationals.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal further and provide any additional information required.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to the possibility of bringing this prestigious event to Barraba.

Yours sincerely,

Jock Mallise  
President  
Barraba Sports Shear Committee



Sports Shear Australia Association Inc.

Sports Shear Australia Association Incorporated  
 Financial Report 21/10/2025  
 CBA Bank Account ending 3691



**Opening Balance 14 Sept 2025 \$ 23,492.25**

**Income**

**Expenses**

Date	Invoice	Description	Amount
19.09.2025	2526-05	Alexander Schoff Novice Wool handling sponsorship	\$ 1,000.00
26.09.2025	2425-16	Johnathan Dalla Blazer payment	\$ 751.00

Date	IQ No./D	Description	Amount
15.09.2025		Commbiz fees	\$ 0.30
17.09.2025		SSAA executive and sponsors National Dinner tickets	\$ 1,380.00
29.09.2025		Forsyth Business Services setting up Xero	\$ 273.01
06.10.2025		National Dinner tickets x 2	\$ 120.00
13.10.2025		NZ Trans Tasman team entry to Jamestown show events	\$ 429.45
15.10.2025		Commbiz fees	\$ 1.15
19.10.2025		Trans Tasman prize money	\$ 5,600.00
19.10.2025		Computer Sashes and Rosettes 2025 Nationals Sashes	\$ 1,562.59

**Total Income \$ 1,751.00**

**Total expenses \$ 9,366.50**

Cash Book Balance	\$ 23,492.25
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$ 1,751.00</b>
Outstanding deposit- AWI Sponsorship	
<b>Minus Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 9,366.50</b>

**NOTE;**

Unpresented  
 Total Cashbook SSAA Balance as at 21.10.2025 \$ 15,876.75

TERM DEPOSIT  
 account 12mth term due 11.07.2026 \$ 83,885.04

**Total in Term deposit \$ 83,885.04**

**NOTE: To be issued - 24-25 SSAA Affiliation Fees \$ 1,500.00**

Moved Affiliation to be AGM-AGM

Moved -Raelene Laidlaw that the Treasurer Report be adopted as true and accurate record of the association accounts as of 13/10/2025  
 Second

Moved- Raelene Laidlaw that accounts paid be ratified and payments to be made endorsed  
 Second

