



Holstein Canada

Resolutions for the 2014 AGM

A. Subject area: Technology

Resolution #1: Submitted by Branch / Club: Ontario

- Whereas Holstein Canada is committed to responsible leadership, embracing technology and passion for the dairy industry;
- Whereas the continuity of the Holstein breed depends on the interest and passion of the next generation;
- Whereas, members of younger generations are accustomed to having technology at their fingertips and rely on social media and mobile devices for everyday use;

Be it resolved a Holstein Canada mobile app for their website be created.

B. Subject area: Breed Improvement

Resolution #2: Submitted by Branch / Club: Manitoba

- Whereas there is a great financial value on high genomic tested heifers, there would be an equally high devaluation of these animals if they classified far below their genomic prediction thereby providing an increased incentive not to classify poor conformation animals, compromising the accuracy and integrity of genomics as a whole;

Be it resolved any animal not classified by 200 days into lactation should be noted on the pedigree as "Not presented for classification."

Resolution #3: Submitted by Branch / Club: Ontario

- Whereas dairy strength, including width of chest, translates into a cow that can produce large volumes of milk;
- Whereas first lactation cows calve younger and need the stature and size to be able to compete within the herd;
- Whereas an animal still has the potential to grow into a mature cow that can produce many lactations of milk;

Be it resolved the evaluation of height front and stature continue to allow dairy producers to have proof information that will allow them to make proper breeding decisions based on their own specific breeding goals.

Resolution #4 Branch / Club: Québec

- Whereas for economic reasons, breeders are more and more focused on having their cows calve at shorter intervals;
- Whereas a one-month dry period is not realistic for all farms;
- Whereas cows that calve within their 365 days and are dry for 60 days are penalized on their BCA for not attaining 305 days;

Be it resolved Holstein Canada look at lowering the number of days so that our cows' BCA would not be penalized.

Resolution #5: Submitted by Branch / Club: Ontario

- Whereas the LPI formula has been a tool used to assist Canadian Holstein Breeders for the past 30 years;
- Whereas CDN information indicates breeders place more emphasis on sires and dams that excel in conformation with lesser emphasis on production traits;
- Whereas we believe an LPI formula that more closely reflects current breeder choices will be more useful and meaningful;
- Whereas there needs to be more stability among the LPI rankings to give more confidence to the Canadian evaluation system;

Be it resolved Holstein Canada, in consultation with industry partners and the GEB Committee, update the LPI formula to reflect the mating choices currently being made by Canadian Holstein Breeders.

C. Subject area: Working with Partners

Resolution #6: Submitted by Branch / Club: Nova Scotia / Newfoundland

- Whereas Johnes disease is a major concern in cattle and other species;
- Whereas Regional Johnes programs in some regions are now coming to an end in Canada;
- Whereas Johnes control needs a long term strategy;

Be it resolved Holstein Canada, along with industry partners, including Governments, collaborate to develop a long term Johnes Program with the goal of eliminating Johnes from the Canadian Dairy Herd.

D. Subject area: Herdbook

Resolution #7: Submitted by Québec & Ontario

- Whereas, calves born as a result of Embryo Transfer are identified as ET;
- Whereas, more manipulation is involved in "In Vitro Fertilization" and the resulting IVF pregnancy;
- Whereas there has been some observed reduction in survival rates along with increased gestation lengths resulting in increased calf size and difficult births;
- Whereas use of IVF technology is increasing among Holstein breeders;
- Whereas some farmers are more reluctant to buy calf in vitro;

Be resolved that calves resulting from IVF be coded upon registration and once coded, it may be a good research project to confirm/evaluate expected productivity/performance (i.e. influence of epigenomics).

Resolution #8: Submitted by Branch / Club: Québec

- Whereas heifers tested for freemartinism generally come from our best genetics;
- Whereas breeding a heifer is extremely expensive for a dairy farm;
- Whereas the DNA blood test is not 100% accurate;
- Whereas the veterinarian does a palpation test at about 6 months of age, but Holstein Canada does not issue a registration certificate until the pregnancy is confirmed;
- Whereas a breeder should have the right to sell a heifer that has a registration certificate and a negative DNA test, a guarantee that the heifer is fertile;

Be it resolved Holstein Canada not issue a registration certificate until the pregnancy is confirmed.

E. Subject area: Shows

Resolution #9: Submitted by Branch / Club: British Columbia

- Whereas increasingly more animals at Holstein shows today are jointly bred by more than one breeder (i.e. partnerships / syndicates) and Holstein Canada By-laws permit only one prefix per animal;
- Whereas all owners who had a part in the breeding decision of an animal deserve recognition and credit for that decision and their investment in that animal;

Be it resolved the Premier Breeder award at shows be presented to the Breeder having the highest number of points won in individual female classes by not more than 10 animals bred, but not necessarily owned by the winner. Calculation of the Premier Breeder should be determined in all identified cases from the certificates of Registry, either:

1) From the breeder section. The Breeder's name must appear solely or jointly as the breeder of the animal.

2) In the case of a within-herd family transfer with alphanumeric code, by utilization of the animal's prefix. To be eligible for the Premier Breeder award, an exhibitor must file an Entry form with Show administrators prior to the start of the show listing all animals eligible for this award. Jointly bred animals can only appear on one entry form for Premier Breeder and will only receive points once.

Resolution #10: Submitted by Branch / Club: British Columbia

- Whereas increasingly more animals at Holstein shows today are jointly bred by more than one breeder (i.e. partnership / syndicate), and Holstein Canada By-laws permit only one prefix per animal;

Be it resolved the Breeder's Herd award at Holstein shows be an award presented to the exhibitor who solely or jointly has bred all three animals in the Breeder's Herd and whose name appears in the Breeder section of the Certificate of Registry. The exhibitor must solely or jointly own at least one animal in the group. The other two animals in the group may be owned by other exhibitors.

F. Subject area: Administration

Resolution #11: Submitted by Branch / Club: Nova Scotia / Newfoundland

- Whereas Holstein Canada offers a diverse array of services to members;
- Whereas some services are mandatory and others are optional;
- Whereas most service providers are offering bundle prices for clients;

Be it resolved Holstein Canada investigate the possibility of a lifetime service fee for a cow including genomics, tags, registration and classification.