

Short Tales



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*Official Registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since
1971*

www.finnsheep.org

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Share Your Story

Do you have a unique experience you'd like to share with other Finnsheep breeders and enthusiasts? A story from the lambing barn, shearing day, or analyzing your flock's performance perhaps. Have you participated in any county fairs, fiber festivals, or 4-H events with your Finns? Pictures and results from your efforts to promote the breed are also welcome! All members are welcome to submit written pieces to be featured in Short Tales. Send your contributions to the board via email

finnsheepbreedersassociation@gmail.com
or contact a member of the board.

2022/2023 AGM

As has been said many times, planning the Annual General Meeting takes time, particularly if planning to have the meeting in person. Due to the time of the year already upon us, this year's AGM will be held via zoom December 11th at 7:00PM EST. There are 4 director positions open. All members in good standing can run for these positions. Directors are expected to attend call-in meetings. Directors also correspond regularly through email and should be responsive. Individuals interested in running should familiarize themselves with the constitution, objectives, and mission statement accessible on the FBA website. Nominations will be accepted until just prior to voting during the Annual Meeting, however it is recommended to submit nominations ahead of time so those running can provide written introductions. Introductions sent to the secretary by October 23 will be included with the mailed invitation. The Board of Directors also would like to be able to plan ahead and look to arranging an in person meeting in 2023. They would like your proposals. Please include in your proposal any ongoing events that members could also attend around the time they are attending the AGM and information about hotel/lodging options. Send your contributions to the board via email finnsheepbreedersassociation@gmail.com or contact a member of the board. Please submit proposals by the end of the year so they can be reviewed by the new board at an early in the year board meeting.

#FinnsheepFriday – Submitted by Jan Hamby

There is a practice in the Shetland Sheep community that has generated excitement among breeders, and keen interest from knitters, spinners, and lovers of all things sheepy. Every Saturday, they encourage their breeders to post pictures to their social media with the hashtag #ShetlandSheepSaturday. Since most were already posting pictures of their sheep and life, adding the hashtag was a very small request, and starting around October of 2021, many have joined in on the fun. A quick search on the hashtag in Instagram yields loads of adorable sheep, but also good information about how Shetland sheep wool can be used, products made with Shetland sheep wool, and Shetland sheep shepherdesses and shepherds.

I love that they are doing this. I've followed the hashtag and love seeing these wee sheep pop into my feed. I've also just adopted their concept for our favorite ovines. Last week I posted a few photos of our sheep on both our farm account (@fairwindsfarm) and on my personal account (@twinssetjan) with the hashtag #FinnsheepFriday. I threw in some other hashtags for educational purposes and good measure -- #FinnsheepBreedersAssoc, #Dual-Purpose, #Fantastic4Handspun, #FabulousFiber, #SuperSocial, and #LittersNotLambs. Between the two accounts we had over 150 unique 'likes' as well as a few comments. Not bad for the first try!

I'd like to urge all of our members to consider adopting #FinnsheepFriday as part of their marketing and educational practices. It's a very low investment of time and, if enough of us start doing it, it has the potential to have real impact on promoting our breed and helping the sheep, lamb, and fiber loving communities understand the characteristics of Finnsheep that make them so wonderful. I know that I'll be making a point to talk about #FinnsheepFriday to any Finnsheep breeders I know, whether they are one of our FBA members or not. And I'll try to have fresh pictures every Friday. I hope you'll join me. With lambing just around the corner, we should have plenty of great subjects for our cameras. Let's make #FinnsheepFriday a thing!
Jan Hamby

FBA Youth Is awarded Finnsheep ewe at Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival !

Daisy Timney 16 of Bear, Delaware, was the recipient of the Youth Conservation Program's Finnsheep this year. Each year youth apply for the opportunity to win a yearling ewe of a donated heritage breed of sheep. The winner receives a yearling ewe, and mentorship from the flock shepherd. This year the Fairwinds Farm Family donated Bonnie a beautiful black Head Socks Tail patterned ewe. In turn the recipient must exhibit her at 2 shows or fairs, write an article about the experience, breed her this fall to a quality ram of her breed, utilize the wool, or sell it to a wool crafter, as well as participate in next years display at the MS&WF. Jan and Dale Hamby were kind enough to present Daisy with a ewe and also their friendship. Daisy exhibited in July at the Delaware State Fair, and also plans on exhibiting again at the New Jersey Sheep and Wool Festival in September. Bonnie has the characteristically friendly demeanor Finns are well known for and has been a wonderful ambassador for the breed. Daisy's essay, as well as pictures of her adventure have been included! Daisy was a good ambassador for the breed herself by winning her state's Sheep and Wool Ambassador competition. She used her experience with

raising and exhibiting Finnsheep in her speech, and also had the opportunity to share her Finnsheep flock and experience with Delaware's Governor John Carney while he visited the fair. Pictured with the Governor is Daisy, along with her sister's brown piebald ewe lamb, Maple from Elizabeth Kinne Gossner of Stillmeadow Finnsheep. A picture of her breed pen display is also included. Daisy was very appreciative of this opportunity the Hamby's gave her, and she is looking forward to many more years of fun with Bonnie!



Fjords to Finns By: Daisy Timney

Rocks clatter to the ground as nimble hooves make their way along the craggy edge of a cliff. In the heart of Finland, a herd of wool-laden Finnish Landrace Sheep travels in leaps and bounds across rugged terrain. Bred to survive even the harshest climates, Finnsheep are adored for their beautiful wool and lean meat, as well as their personable nature. Speaking of wool... I would be remiss if I didn't spend at least 12 years talking about their many qualities and uses, but for now, I'll just hit the highlights. How many breeds can say that their wool can be used for baby clothes? I know Finnsheep is one of them! Finn lamb wool is so soft and fine that babies can't get enough of it. Spinners are partial to the adult fleece, but that has more to do with the amount available. In terms of quality, it's just as amazing! "The wool is typically soft and fairly uniform across the body with a medium to long staple length of between 3 and 6 inches...Finn wool is prized for hand spinning with a distinctive luster and characteristic soft hand." (Hyer

Wools) 3 to 6 inches doesn't seem like a lot, but it sure does go a long way. "With a staple length (relaxed) of less than 3, the fleece should have exceptional other qualities such as crimp (elasticity) and fineness. Over 6" and you need to watch out for breaks or tender fibers." (Morro Fleece Works) Crimp and fineness are two things Finns definitely aren't lacking! Delicate curls and soft luster are just the beginning. Throughout my journey with these sheep I've done many things with wool in general, but also my sheep's own fleeces. Under careful instruction I have shorn fleeces, needle felted, wet felted, and sewn with wool fabric. Other activities that I have done with my sheep include the Delaware State Fair, where I participated in the Wool Lead Line, Natural Colored Breed classes, Fitting & Showmanship, and the Pretty Animal Contest. We take these shows seriously for their informational value. Many times the judge will tell us what is good, and bad about our sheep, and how we can enhance or negate those traits. They also give us the opportunity to form connections with people who have similar, or very different sheep from us, I have 4h and FFA friends and there are probably 8 or 9 different breeds among them all. I've mentioned previously that lamb's wool can be used to make baby's clothing, but in all reality, how many hats can you make with only one lamb? Luckily, Finns are known as the sheep that lambs in litters! "Renowned as prolific breeders producing multiple births, the Finnsheep regularly has triplets and quadruplets. Our history records show several litters of octuplets and septuplets. It is not uncommon for ewe lambs, twelve months of age, to have twins and triplets. Finnsheep are excellent mothers with plentiful milk for the large litters." (FBA) Because they produce multiple lambs in each litter, Finnsheep are overlooked when considered for "endangered" or "at-risk" breed lists. Because of this, not many people are aware of their unique characteristics. Currently, there are approximately 184 registered Finnsheep breeders (FBA) in the United States; compared to about 361 registered Suffolk breeders. (USSA) This shows the large gap between breeds that are more established, and Finnsheep; which were only introduced to North America in 1966. (FBA) Finnsheep are a walking contradiction. They are a populous breed that is rare, has lots of interest but are often only used as crossbreeders, and are taken for granted in terms of versatility. They are not often considered a popular breed, which is why this program is so important. The Youth Conservation Program is giving Finns the chance they need to establish themselves as a Heritage breed. Through it all, Finns have survived and remained one of the purer breeds. They are considered a primitive breed because they haven't been drastically changed from their original landrace form. That purity should be protected, and traits which make them unique should be kept carefully intact. With our current flock, we have protected that purity through careful breeding and an extensive gene pool. We hope to soon develop our own unique Finns through this process while still making them as correct in body type as possible. By partnering with local, and long-distance, flocks, we are able to ensure that our sheep will have beautiful colors and patterns, high litter rates, and excellent body conformation. We are still in the beginning stages, but who knows what the future will bring? We want to show the world our Fabulously Fantastic Finns, but for today we'll start here with the Youth Conservation Program! Citations: Notes on Finnsheep Fleece. (2016, July 1). Retrieved from

<https://www.hyerwools.com/single-post/2016/07/01/notes-on-finnsheep-fleece#:~:text=Finn%20wool%20is%20prized%20for,skin%20and%20items%20for%20b>

[abies Skirting. \(n.d.\). Retrieved from https://www.morrofleeceworks.com/Pages/Skirting.htm](https://www.morrofleeceworks.com/Pages/Skirting.htm)
 United Suffolk Sheep Association | FIND A BREEDER. (n.d.). Retrieved from
<https://suffolks.org/breeders.php>

2021 Registrations by Farm

Total Animals Registered: 1080

Member	# Registered	Member	# Registered
Triple L Finnsheep, WA	49	SPINNING SHEEP FIBER FARM, MO	37
BOONDOGGLE FARM, VT	35	WILD ROSE FINNSHEEP, ID	34
Mormon Trail Farm, IA	33	BRENDA TREIBEL, WA	30
HEDGEHOG HILL FARM, MA	29	Point of View Farm Finnsheep, NY	29
Fair Winds Farm, LLC, PA	28	CEDAR VIEW FARM, VA	27
BUTTERCUP BARN LLC, CO	27	DAVID PAFFORD, TX	23
WOODSONG FARM, VA	22	Solace Farm, WA	21
Stillmeadow Finnsheep, NY	19	HEELSIDE FARMS, NC	19
PONKER FARM, AR	17	WALKING CLOUD FARM, MA	17
Medley Farm & Kennel, CA	17	Childers Farm, WV	16
Marvin Blair, IA	16	Gray Farm, ID	15
CINDY CRONIN, ME	14	GYPSY MOUNTAIN FARM, VA	13
PRAIRIE PLUM FARM, MN	13	KATIE COADY, ME	13
Yankee Rock Farm, VT	13	HM FARMS, CA	12
BRYNNA BODE, MD	11	CAROLYN & JAMES MOLONEY, MD	11
MARY FALLON, ME	11	BRENDA HOGAN, AK	11
Two Moon Acres, NY	11	CREAM CITY LAMB & WOOL, MN	10
Dale L Amendt, IA	10	VINCENT & NEOMI GRAZIANO, VT	9
WALTER THRELFALL, OH	9	OVERLAND LAMB, MI	9
Dancing Waters Farm, WA	9	LETICIA WARD, OR	8
HERDEWE FARM, NH	8	LITTLE FOOT FARM LLC, MD	8
AMON VAN ALST, NY	8	PRIMROSE PATH FARM, IL	8
CAROLYN RODGERS, WV	8	HILLARY BONASERA & JOHN-MARC, VT	8
CHEYENNE KNELLER, PA	8	EWE CRAZY FINNS, MN	8
GOOD SHEPHERD SWATARA, PA	7	JIM & STEPHENIE ONORATI, WA	7
GABRIELLA NANJI, GA	7	AUTUMN RAYNE ACRES, VT	7
MARIE HANNA, CO	7	KYLIE EASTMON, NY	7
MARY SCHARNHORST, ID	7	Honeysuckle Farm, MD	7
Skyemoor Farm, VA	7	OLDE HAVEN FARM, ME	6
IRISH ACRES FINNSHEEP, CT	6	5 GALLON DOG RANCH, PA	6
ALEX ASH, NY	6	Mc B's Hoof and Feather Farm, NY	6

Member	# Registered	Member	# Registered
BIGFOOT FARM, NY	6	COTTONTAIL FARM, VA	5
LYDA SAVOCA, CO	5	PATRICIA ROSS, ME	5
JOANN DANNER, ID	5	AJ'S HAPPY CHICK FARM, VT	5
CLOUD CASTLE FARM, HI	5	Pine Lawn Farm, MN	5
Bridget & Doug Rightmire, CO	5	STONYSLOPE FARM, OH	4
LH PINE HILL FARM, MI	4	MULBERRY GROVE FARM, IL	4
AYRWEN FARM, WI	4	CHARLES KLISIS, CO	4
VIOLET KNELLER, PA	4	JAMES FARMER, MA	4
4 O'CLOCK FARM, PA	4	SULLIVAN FARM, VA	4
JOHN MCKEON, MD	4	HIGHLAND ACRES, NY	4
KRISTA J KETTLE, CT	4	Linda Beam, VA	4
Huckleberry Farm, WA	4	Hannahs Happy Finn Sheep, OH	4
RIVENDELL FARM OF ONEONTA, NY	4	AMBER MANZER, NY	3
BASSEL KADI & DANIELLE, MO	3	DANA RUSSO, MO	3
SARAH GRANT, ID	3	BLUESTONE HILL FARM, NY	3
LUCKY BEE FARM, NC	3	BOLAND FAMILY FARM, WI	3
Gale Woods Farm Park, MN	3	HUBBARD FALLS, NY	2
RALPH & ELLEN SHEAFFER, PA	2	SOUTH RIDGE SHEEP, PA	2
NICOLE WOODWARD, CA	2	SUNNY VALLEY FARMS, NY	2
KENT KELLY, VA	2	GINA ALLEN, WA	2
JAMES & SANDIE MERRIFIELD, WA	2	CURTIS FARMS, NH	2
ALISON M COATES, NY	2	Jeruth Farm, WA	2
NINE TREES FARM, WA	1	CLAUDIA BETH TRGOVIC, NC	1
STONE AND IRON HOMESTEAD, NY	1	RAINE OR JOHN PEDERSEN, CT	1
SUNNY ROCK 4-H FARM, MA	1	RACHEL WHITE, ME	1
FAIRY TALE FARM, VT	1	VERDANT HARE, WA	1
Jennifer & David Miles, MA	1	Moon Over Ewe, TX	1

2021 Registrations by State

Total Animals Registered: 1080

WA - Washington 126

VA - Virginia 84

ID - Idaho 64

IA - Iowa 59

CO - Colorado 50

MO - Missouri 43

MN - Minnesota 39

NY - New York 113

VT - Vermont 78

PA - Pennsylvania 61

MA - Massachusetts 52

ME - Maine 50

MD - Maryland 41

CA - California 31

TX - Texas 24
NC - North Carolina 23
OH - Ohio 17
IL - Illinois 12
CT - Connecticut 11
OR - Oregon 8
WI - Wisconsin 7

WV - West Virginia 24
AR - Arkansas 17
MI - Michigan 13
AK - Alaska 11
NH - New Hampshire 10
GA - Georgia 7
HI - Hawaii 5

2021 Annual General Meeting Minutes

FBA Annual Meeting Minutes November 7, 2021

Attendance: Siri Swanson, Cody Manspile, Mary Tucker, Deb Kirsch, Richard Crocker, Alex Ash, Ashley Woolf, Beckey Thompson, Catherine Precht, Dale Gehman, Donna Putnum, Elizabeth Gossner, Kaeli DesJarlais, Jan Hamby, Johanna Hunt, Kristen McCann, Kelli Otting, Kylie Eastman, Lisa Konnerth, Meghan Audet, Raine Pederson, Walter Threlfall, Clark Bredahl, Amon Van Alst, Nadeine Van Alst, Laura Timney, Kerry Mower

Siri Swanson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Secretary Report: Mary Tucker motioned to approve the minutes as read. Catherine Precht seconded. The motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report: Meaghan Audet motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Cody seconded. The motion was carried.

Old Business

- Review of 2021- The Shepherd highlighted Finnsheep where multiple articles submitted by members were included. A constitution committee was formed. A survey was sent out to the membership and also included member interests. Educational opportunities were one thing brought up within the survey. The board hosted Terry Burks who gave a presentation of Applied Animal Selection. The survey results are in Short Tails 108 on the website. The FBA now has a new website which is live. The online registration process and pedigree database has not changed. We now have an online store with FBA apparel for purchase.

New Business

- Constitution- A committee was formed to review the constitution. Revisions were included in Short Tails 108 for member review. There was discussion about the reasoning for changing from a two to three year term for directors. Cody Manspile explained that we have not had as much interest in director positions. Also that he felt that once you start a project and get it going your term is almost up.

- There was also discussion about Section 1 of the constitution.

- Any additions or suggestions for the constitution can be emailed to Cody Manspile. All suggestions brought to the committee will be brought in front of the membership for discussion prior to a vote.

- Walter Threlfall moved that we send the constitution back to the committee for further review. Kelli Otting seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Elections

- Alan Huffman has resigned from his position as director and treasurer.
 - With Alan's resignation we have three seats to fill.
 - Introductions from nominees Kelli Otting, Catherine Precht and Johanna Hunt were given.
 - Mary O'Malley nominated Kerry Mower. Patricia Maas seconded.
 - Mary Tucker nominated Deb Kirsch. Deb Kirsch accepted the nomination.
 - Nominees are: Kelli Otting, Catherine Precht, Johanna Hunt, Kerry Mower and Deb Kirsch
 - Catherine Precht motioned to close the nominations. Cody Manspile seconded. Motion carried.
 - Voting took place in the chat feature of the zoom meeting. Secretary Ashley Hoffman and President Siri Swanson individually recorded the votes. Jan Hamby motioned to close the voting. Cody Manspile seconded.
- Motion carried.
- Catherine Precht was voted in to fill the remainder of Alan Huffman's term
 - Kelli Otting and Johanna Hunt were voted in to fill the two open director seats.

Hall of Fame

- Clark BreDahl was inducted into the FBA Hall of Fame. Clark is a commercial and purebred sheep producer whose experience with the Finnsheep breed goes back over 40 years. He purchased his first Finn ram from the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center at Clay Center, Nebraska in 1978 and has used the breed on his family's SW Iowa farm continuously ever since. He is a past president of the Iowa Sheep Producers Association, the Cornbelt Lamb Marketing Association and the Finnsheep Breeders Association and has authored a monthly column, Dispatch from Mormon Trail Farm, for The Shepherd magazine for over three decades. He was the first Finnsheep breeder to enroll in the National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) and is a firm believer in using data driven numbers for making flock improvement decisions. Clark and his wife Linda are the proud parents of two married daughters whose families are both involved in sheep production on Iowa farms.

Cody Manspile motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kelli Otting seconded. Motion carried.
President Siri Swanson adjourned the meeting at 8:44PM

Treasurers Report

3:35 PM

11/05/21

Accrual Basis

FINNSHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Balance Sheet

As of November 5, 2021

	<u>Nov 5, 21</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Cheque - Bennigton Bank	39,031.93
Petty Cash	46.80
Total Checking/Savings	<u>39,078.73</u>
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	24.01
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>24.01</u>
Other Current Assets	
BSB CD	2,088.37
Undeposited Funds	74.00
Total Other Current Assets	<u>2,162.37</u>
Total Current Assets	41,265.11
Other Assets	
Equipment	755.88
Total Other Assets	<u>755.88</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>42,020.99</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	3,543.42
Retained Earnings	31,400.62
Net Income	7,076.95
Total Equity	<u>42,020.99</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>42,020.99</u></u>

3:34 PM

FINNSHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Profit & Loss

11/05/21

January through December 2021

Accrual Basis

	<u>Jan - Dec 21</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Ad income	
Shepherd Ad	105.00
Total Ad income	105.00
Annual Dues	
2020	25.00
2021	2,001.00
2022	150.00
Total Annual Dues	2,176.00
Breeders Directory Income	
2021	1,435.00
2022	60.00
Total Breeders Directory Income	1,495.00
Flock Prefix Income	500.00
Income (other- dup certs etc)	516.00
Interest	249.10
Membership Income	
Youth membership	90.00
Membership Income - Other	1,295.00
Total Membership Income	1,385.00
Registrations	
Finn Pedigrees	9,766.35
Non-purebred	149.00
Transfers	1,220.00
Total Registrations	11,135.35
Total Income	17,561.45
Expense	
Advertising	
Web-page	1,225.00
Advertising - Other	2,445.00
Total Advertising	3,670.00
Contract Labor	5,990.64
Meeting	74.84
Paypal fees	119.80
Postage and Delivery	300.00
Printing and Reproduction	39.22
Professional Fees	290.00
Total Expense	10,484.50
Net Ordinary Income	7,076.95
Net Income	<u>7,076.95</u>

New Committees

The Board of Directors is excited to announce the formation of four new committees. Each of the member run committees will be focused on a specific area of interest within the Finnsheep breed, with the idea of growing educational opportunities, resources, and engagement in each area. Member involvement is an important part of developing and growing the association, as well as helping to introduce this wonderful breed to more people. If you are interested in serving on a committee, or getting involved in other ways, please email finnsheepbreedersassociation@gmail.com

The graphic features a large white arrow pointing right, set against a dark blue background with a subtle sheep pattern. The arrow is divided into four horizontal sections, each labeled with a committee area: FIBER, NSIP and COMMERCIAL, YOUTH and EDUCATION, and DAIRY. In the top right corner, there is a circular logo for the Finnsheep Breeders Association, showing a sheep's head. To the right of the arrow, the text 'NEWLY FORMED breed interest committees' is written in white. At the bottom right, a blue box contains the text 'Contact the Board of Directors to find out how you can get involved.' A white arrow points from this box towards the center of the graphic. At the bottom center, a white arrow points right with the text 'INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A COMMITTEE?'.

New Colors and Updated Registration Applications

Two new color options have been voted on and approved by the board. Blue and Reverse Badger. As well the color committee has now completed their update of a color guide. The color guide can be found on the FBA website (Finnsheep.org) on the Resources tab. Below are updated registration applications with the new color options.

Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct

The Board of Directors has been working on a code of ethics and code of conduct for all members to adhere to as well as an additional piece for directors, officers, and committee members to adhere to. The board has voted on and approved the part that pertains to directors, officers and committee members. The board would like feedback regarding the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct for the membership. Please submit any feedback or concerns to the board by November 23rd, 2022.

Code Of Ethics

Members of the Finnsheep Breeders Association (FBA) subscribe to the following Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct.

They agree to follow the guidelines listed herein candidly and forthrightly:

1. To practice and support the goals, principles, and procedures as set forth by the FBA.
2. To ensure the purity of the Finnsheep breed through accurate record keeping.
3. Ensure the genetic purity of registered Finnsheep through the use of progeny testing in situations where parentage may be unknown.
4. To be knowledgeable about the Finnsheep breed standard and thoroughly familiar with the various faults one may encounter in a breeding program in order to preserve and protect the integrity of the genome of this breed.
5. Members will not knowingly use for breeding any animal with major defects or hereditary diseases.
6. Members will aim to breed to the standards outlined in the FBA breed standard.
7. To refrain from the introduction of other breeds into sheep presented for purebred registration.
8. To refrain from using suspected crossbred Finnsheep, regardless of their registration status, in one's purebred Finnsheep breeding program.
9. To employ safe animal husbandry practices to insure the health and well being of one's flock. Members will always breed, raise and maintain their animals according to current animal welfare standards.
10. To practice honesty in all forms in representing the genetics of one's sheep and to be forthright in dealing with the public and potential purchasers of one's stock.
11. Members will deal honestly, ethically and fairly and will not engage in false or misleading advertising of stock.

12. To provide accurate and timely registration documents to purchasers of one's breeding stock.

Members who fail to uphold this standard of ethics and conduct may be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the FBA Constitution.

FBA Code of Conduct

Members must be aware of their responsibilities and aim at all times to conscientiously maintain the highest possible standards of integrity.

1. Members will abide by the FBA Constitution, Code of Ethics, and Code of Conduct.

2. Members will treat each other with respect and courtesy and will aim to be inclusive of all members.

3. Members will not participate in, tolerate or condone any form of bullying, sexual harassment or discrimination.

4. To refrain from creating disharmony in the Association by attacking the good will of other members or the organization; the flaming of a member or officer online or in public constitutes creating disharmony.

5. Members should advance the interests of the FBA and maintain its integrity and status, including observing the highest standard of flock management, professional ethics, business practice and fair and proper competition.

6. Members will adhere to all state and federal laws pertaining to the keeping or breeding of sheep or livestock.

7. Members will sell animals in good healthy condition, free to the best of their knowledge from disease or major defects or hereditary disease.

8. Members will ensure that registration and transfer of stock is to be completed promptly in accordance with FBA guidelines.

9. Members selling registered Finnsheep will provide the purchaser with a Bill of Sale, explain the transfer process, and keep records of the purchasers of their registered Finnsheep.

10. Members should work to increase awareness of the Finnsheep breed.

11. Members should be conscious of the fact that all interactions they have, be it in person or online, are representing the breed and association as a whole.

12. To conduct oneself with dignity and honesty at any breed organization public function in such a manner that will enhance the image of the Finnsheep breed.

13. Members are to speak or act on behalf of the FBA only with approval of the organization.

14. Members should treat industry associates in a fair and respectful manner.

15. Members should be willing to share their experience with prospective members and members alike. Enquiries should be treated with courtesy. Requests for information, documentation, or advice should be satisfied in a professional and impartial manner. Bias of any kind should be avoided.

16. Members should be sensitive to conflict of interest and should immediately declare their interest and disqualify themselves from any activity that might be seen to suffer from that conflict. In this regard, no member will judge an animal or fleece in which they currently hold or previously held interest. Perceived conflicts of interest should also be avoided in order to protect and promote the standing of the FBA.

17. Members will accept with good grace the outcomes of activities conducted and decisions made by the FBA. Members with questions or concerns regarding these outcomes and decisions should submit them in writing to the board for review.

18. Members will be conscious that they are representing the breed in discussions both online and in person and taking into consideration the potential effects to the association and other members. Productive discussion regarding the breed is always encouraged.

Members who fail to uphold this standard of ethics and conduct may be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the FBA Constitution.

Board of Directors, Officers and Committee Members

Board of Directors, Officers and Committee Members of the Finnsheep Breeders Association (FBA) subscribe to the Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct and the following. They agree to follow the guidelines listed herein candidly and forthrightly:

1. Board of Directors, Officers and Committee members are in a position of trust and will do nothing to abuse that trust.

2. Ensure the governance processes they undertake are guided by the following values: Transparency, Accessibility, Responsiveness, Accountability, Inclusiveness and Efficiency.

3. Behave honestly and with integrity in connection with their role

4. Carry out their functions with due care and diligence for the benefit of the association, as far as practical.

5. Disclose any interest in a matter that conflicts with their ability to perform their duties.

A. If a board member, officer or committee member has a direct or indirect conflict of interest in a matter being considered they must disclose the nature of the conflict, as soon as possible after becoming aware of it.

B. The board of directors must deal with any disclosure of interest.

- C. The details of the interest must be recorded in the board of directors meeting minutes.
- D. Unless the board of directors determines otherwise, the person of conflict cannot:
- a. be present while the matter is discussed at the board of director meetings, or
 - b. take part in any decision of the board of directors with respect to that matter.
6. Maintain appropriate confidentiality about official dealings of the board of directors and committees.
7. Maintain confidentiality of the membership and confidential information of the FBA.
8. Not use their position or information acquired as a board of director, officer or committee member for improper purpose
9. Will use FBA resources in a proper manner and for a proper purpose.

Board of Directors, Officers and Committee Members who fail to uphold this standard of ethics and conduct may be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the FBA Constitution.

Finnsheep Breeders Association Breeders **Directory**

Join the directory for \$30 per year.

Your listing will appear on the FBA website and in every issue of Short Tales.

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Visit us on the web: www.finnsheep.org

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Finnsheep Breeders Association, Inc.

Finnsheep breeders are now found across many States producing purebred and crossbred Finnsheep. Breeders look to the Finnsheep Breeders Association, Inc. to provide record keeping of registrations and transfers of the breed. Since the inception of the Finnsheep Breeders Association, Inc. the organization has drawn on the expertise of leading research authorities to enhance the Finnsheep breed and provide leadership in promoting the Finnsheep qualities and characteristics.

FBA Mission Statement

The American Finnsheep Breeders Association:

Provides a national pedigree breed recording system for Finnsheep

Maintains the Finnsheep breed standard for the USA

Promotes animal health within the breed and nationally

Fosters and promotes the proliferation and marketing of Finnsheep within the national sheep industry and abroad

Is a national focal point for Finnsheep Breeders

Disseminates timely information to members on all matters relating to the breed