

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

MEATMASTER SHEEP BREEDERS' SOCIETY

OF NAMIBIA

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**CONSTITUTION OF THE
MEATMASTER SHEEP BREEDERS' SOCIETY OF NAMIBIA**

DEFINITIONS

1. Words and phrases in this Constitution shall have the following meanings unless a contrary meaning clearly appears from the context –
 - (a) “Act” means the Animal Improvement Act, 1977 (Act No. 25 of 1977) and the Livestock Improvement Amendment Act, 1993 (Act No. 25 of 1993) or any subsequent legislation having similar objectives than the said Acts, and includes the regulations promulgated in terms thereof;
 - (b) “Association” means the Namibian Stud Book Association;
 - (c) “recording”, the procedure of recording F1, F2, F3 and F4 Meatmaster Sheep in the Development Register;
 - (d) "Department" means the Department or Departments or Ministry in the National Government charged with the administration of the Act;
 - (e) “owner”(of a Meatmaster sheep), the person:
 - (i) Who (according to the records of the of the Registration Authority) owns the animal or
 - (ii) can prove to the satisfaction of the Council that the said animal is eligible to be recorded in his/her name;
 - (f) "embryo" means a fertilized ovum of a Meatmaster Sheep;
 - (g) "Territory" means The Republic of Namibia and such other countries as the Registration Authority from time to time with the approval of the minister may determine;
 - (h) "birth" means the birth of a Meatmaster lamb;
 - (i) "Society" means the Meatmaster Sheep Breeders’ Society of Namibia;
 - (j) "Constitution" means the Constitution of the Society (inclusive of the Regulations of the Society);
 - (k) "buyer" means the person or persons to whom ownership/joint ownership of an animal is transferred by the seller of such an animal;
 - (l) "Flock Book" means the Flock Book of the Society in which all Meatmaster sheep shall be recorded or registered;
 - (m) “Meatmaster sheep” a Meatmaster sheep recorded or eligible for recording or registration in the Flock Book of the Society;
 - (n) "Minister" means the Minister responsible for agriculture;
 - (o) “person or persons living in the Territory who is a member”, means that the animals of such a person/persons are kept in the territory, but the person or breeder need not necessarily live in the territory;

- (p) "Council" means the Council of the Society duly elected in terms of the Constitution;
- (q) "Registrar" means the officer designated as Registrar of Animal Improvement in terms of the Act;
- (r) "register", the procedure of the registration of a prefix by the Registration Authority;
- (s) "registering" refers to the procedure of registering an animal in the Stud Book Proper Section of the Flock Book;
- (t) "Registration Authority", the Registration Authority appointed by the Society to record Meatmaster sheep; which shall be the Namibian Stud Breeders' Association, to be known as the "Association";
- (u) "Namibia" the Republic of Namibia;
- (v) "Secretary" means the person or entity approved by Council to do the secretarial work of the Society;
- (w) "semen" means the semen of an animal;
- (x) "Stud Book" the Namibian Meatmaster Herd Book;
- (y) "Namibian-bred Meatmaster sheep " means an animal born in, or whilst in transit to the Territories : Provided that an animal born from an imported ovum or embryo, shall be regarded as an imported Meatmaster sheep;
- (z) "breeder" of a Meatmaster sheep means a member of the Society who is the owner of
 - (i) the dam at the date of birth of a Meatmaster lamb to be recorded;
 - (ii) an animal at the date of application for registration in the First Section of the Developing Register ;
 - (iii) the recipient dam at the date of birth of the animal to be recorded as a result of an embryo transfer;
- (aa) "seller" means the person, persons or legal entity being the owner/joint owner/s of a Meatmaster sheep according to the records of the Association, or in the case of an imported animal, the owner in the country of origin, who disposes of such an animal;

2. Other words, abbreviations and phrases in this Constitution, not defined above, shall, unless a contrary meaning clearly appears from the context, have the same meaning assigned thereto in the Act.

**CONSTITUTION OF THE
MEATMASTER SHEEP BREEDERS' SOCIETY
OF NAMIBIA**

1. NAME OF THE SOCIETY

The name of the Society is the Meatmaster Sheep Breeders' Society of Namibia.

2. OBJECTIVES

Subject to the provisions of the Act and of this Constitution, the objectives of the Society shall be:

- 2.1 to encourage and promote the breeding and the improvement of the genetic production potential of Meatmaster sheep in the Territory by executing the powers and duties as bestowed upon the Society by law regarding the registration of pedigrees by the Registration Authority, the import and export of Meatmaster sheep, semen, ovum, and render technical and consultative inspection services as may be deemed necessary;
- 2.2 to encourage the preservation and development of Meatmaster sheep breed in the Territory by the sound selection in accordance with the accepted description of the Meatmaster sheep;
- 2.3 to compile and maintain accurate pedigrees and detail of purebred Meatmaster sheep duly recorded through the Registration Authority;
- 2.4 to compile and maintain an authentic stud and breed history of the Namibian Meatmaster sheep in the Flock Book; to keep other records as from time to time may be deemed necessary for the objectives of the Society;
- 2.5 to compile a Standard of Excellence for the breed;
- 2.6 generally to do all such acts a body corporate may by law perform, and which the Society may deem necessary for the attainment of its objectives;
- 2.7 to perform such functions and duties as may result from its membership with the Registered Authority.
- 2.8 The Society shall not carry on any profit making activities; or participate in any business, profession or occupation carried on by any of its members, or provide any financial assistance, premises, continuous services, or facilities to its members for the purpose of carrying on any business, profession or occupation by them.
- 2.9 The Society may not have the power to carry on any business, including *inter alia*, ordinary trading operations in the commercial sense, speculative transactions, dividend stripping activities as well as the letting of property on a systematic or regular basis.

3. POWERS OF THE SOCIETY

Subject to the terms of the Constitution, the Society shall have the power to do anything in reason to reach its goals as listed in Cause 2.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 ELIGIBILITY

Subject to the provisions of Clause 4.1(a) the membership of the Society shall be limited to persons above the age of 18 years and shall consist of the following categories of members: –

(a) ORDINARY MEMBERS

All persons who are engaged, directly or indirectly, in the breeding of animals, resident in the Territory, shall be eligible for membership of the Society as Ordinary Members who shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of membership, including the right to vote at any general meeting of the Society, and the right to be elected to Council. For the purposes of this sub clause a legal entity shall be deemed to be a person and eligible for Ordinary Membership of the Society;

(b) HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

For special services in the interest of the Meatmaster breed, a person may at an Annual General Meeting be elected an Honorary Life Member, who shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of membership, including the right to vote at any meeting of the Society, and the right to be elected to the Council: Provided that no person shall be eligible for Honorary Life Membership unless recommended by the Council,

(c) SPECIAL HONORARY MEMBERS

Any person not necessarily actively engaged in the breeding of Meatmaster animals may be elected a Special Honorary Member by the Council, upon such conditions as the Council may determine: Provided that a Special Honorary Member may not vote at meetings of the Society and is not eligible for election to Council.

(d) HONORARY LIFE VICE-PRESIDENTS

For special services in the interest and promotion of the Meatmaster breed or the Society, persons may at an Annual General Meeting be elected as Honorary Life Vice Presidents: Provided that it be recommended by at least a two thirds majority vote by the members present and eligible to vote. Such persons shall have the power to attend and take part in the discussions at any General Meeting of the Society; and when invited may attend Council Meetings but shall not vote at meetings of the Society and is not eligible for election to Council.

(e) JUNIOR MEMBERS

Any person under the age of 18 years may become a Junior Member on approval of the Council. A Junior Member may not vote at meetings of the Society, is not eligible for election to the Council, but upon payment of the scheduled fees may partake in the other activities of the Society and provided further that the junior member's parents or guardians countersign the application and accept full responsibility for the financial and other commitments towards the Society on behalf of such a junior member.

(f) SUBSCRIPTION MEMBERS

- (i) Any person or body corporate who may be interested in the Meatmaster breed may join as a subscription member on payment of the yearly subscription fee.
- (ii) Subscription members may apply for inspection services or for assistance by Society officials on payment of the applicable fees.
- (iii) A subscription member shall:
 - (a) have voting power at any meeting of the Society;
 - (b) be eligible for election to Council;
 - (c) be able to exhibit animals at a show which is held under the auspices of the Society;
 - (d) to sell animals at a sale held under the auspices of the Society;
- (iv) Subscription members shall receive literature from the Society;

4.2 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

- 4.2.1 Application for membership of the Society shall be made to the Society on the prescribe form (Annexure D), and shall be accompanied by the relevant subscription and/or entrance fees as set out in the Society's Schedule of Fees (Annexure A).
- 4.2.2 The Council may admit the applicant to membership of the Society either unconditionally or on such conditions as it may determine, or it may refuse admission to membership without disclosing any reason for such a refusal.
- 4.2.3 An applicant, to whom admission to membership has been refused, shall be entitled to a refund of any fees forwarded with his application for membership.
- 4.2.4 The application for membership is subject to the signing by the applicant, or its representative.

4.3 LEGAL ENTITY

- 4.3.1 A legal entity applying for Ordinary Membership shall disclose to the Society such facts or data as may be necessary to determine the nature of the controlling interest therein and shall then, or at any time thereafter, in addition to the requirements imposed in respect of all applications, furnish the Society with the name and address of the person appointed by it to act as its representative at meetings of the Society. Such a person shall have the right to nominate an alternate in writing, which nomination shall be handed to the Secretary not later than the time of the meeting at which such an alternate will be present. In the case of a partnership, full names and addresses of all partners must be submitted to the Society and such partners shall either jointly or severally be responsible for all dues to the Society.
- 4.3.2 All communications addressed to such an authorized representative referred to in Clause 4.3.1 shall be deemed to be duly served upon the legal entity and at all meetings at which such an authorized representative is in attendance on behalf of the legal entity the legal entity shall be deemed to be duly represented.
- 4.3.3 The person so appointed to represent such a legal entity shall be eligible for election to Council in terms of Clause 8.
- 4.3.4 Should such a legal entity cease to comply with the requirements of Ordinary Membership as laid down in Clauses 4.1(a) its rights shall automatically be terminated,

and the provisions of Clause 4.3.5 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply in respect of such a legal entity.

4.3.5 The liquidation or dissolution of a legal entity shall automatically result in the termination of its membership of the Society: Provided that -

- (a) all amounts owing to the Society as at the date of liquidation or dissolution shall be recoverable by the Society from the liquidator of such a legal entity or from the members (either jointly or severally) of such a legal entity;
- (b) the liquidator and members of such a legal entity shall be obliged to discharge all the obligations of such a legal entity in respect of registrations, recordings, transfers and whatever obligations the legal entity would have had to discharge as a member of the Society; and
- (c) whatever fees may become due and payable as a result of fees, registrations, recordings, transfers or other obligations which have of necessity to be fulfilled after such automatic termination of membership, shall be raised on the scale payable by Ordinary Members or Life Members.

4.4 REGISTER OF MEMBERS

4.4.1 The Society shall keep a register of all members reflecting the date of admission, postal address and where applicable the email address, telephone numbers as well as record of payments made, dates received as well as outstanding amounts when applicable.

4.4.2 Every member shall communicate in writing to the Secretary any change of his postal or e-mail address, and all notices or publications posted or where applicable to the e-mail address or to the registered address of a member shall be considered as duly delivered to him.

4.5 RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

Apart from the *ex lege* (legal) consequences of executors of deceased estates, trustees of insolvent estates and liquidators of a legal entity, the rights and privileges of every member of the Society shall be personal to him and shall not be transferable or transmissible either by his own act or by operation of law. These shall include the following rights -

- (a) to receive all reports and other matters published by the Society for distribution amongst members;
- (b) to apply for the recording or registering of Meatmaster sheep under the Society's rules;
- (c) to attend all general meetings of the Society and have the right to vote at such meetings;
- (d) to receive technical advice on Meatmaster sheep matters from the Society's inspectors and officials, if available (cost of same to be defrayed by the applicant); and
- (e) to consult and use the Society's official reports.
- (f) to have insight to the rights and privileges as pertained in the Constitution of the Society

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FEES

5.1 The amounts payable to the Society in respect of all subscriptions, fees or any other dues and commissions shall from time to time be determined by Council and shall

be submitted to members for approval at the ensuing Annual General Meeting of the Society. (Refer to Annexure A).

- 5.2 Annual subscriptions and fees shall become due and payable on the first day of March of each year.
- 5.3 Any member whose subscription is in arrears, or who is indebted to the Society in respect of any fees or dues for a period of 30 days after a demand by registered post for payment thereof has been addressed to him by the Secretary, shall cease to enjoy any of the rights and privileges of membership until such a time as such indebtedness has been liquidated.
- 5.4 Council may cause an interest charge or penalty to be levied and collected on arrear accounts at a rate determined by Council from time to time.
- 5.5 Any member who, for any reason whatsoever, has ceased to be a member of the Society shall remain liable for all amounts due to the Society, as at the date on which his membership ceases.
- 5.6 Should the Council determine that an account is in arrear or has ceased to be a member of the Society and should such an account be handed over to a firm of attorneys for collection, then the member shall be liable to the Society for payment of all legal charges, collection, and attorney and client costs incurred in addition to the principal amount, fines and penalties owing by him.
- 5.7 Any dues in regards to recording or inscription of Meatmaster sheep or any additional administrative responsibilities involved shall be for the members account.
- 5.8 Resignation of membership shall be submitted by registered post or by e-mail.

6. RESIGNATION, EXPULSION AND TERMINATION OF VOTING RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

6.1 RESIGNATIONS

Any member may resign from the Society by giving written notice per registered post or by e-mail, to the Secretary not less than three months before the end of the financial year: Provided that;

the membership fee or portion thereof shall not be refunded.

Such a resignation shall not take effect before the end of the financial year and until all moneys owing to the Society by such a member have been paid, and furthermore until such a member has discharged all his obligations in respect of registrations, recordings, transfers or any other obligation he would have had to discharge as a member of the Society;

6.2 EXPULSION

- 6.2.1 Council may expel and/or terminate its services to any member: provided it had been approved by a two thirds majority of Council members who attended the meeting and eligible to vote who -
- (a) Fails to settle any dues owed by him to the Society, within 60 days after due notice and demand signed by the Secretary was directed to him/her registered mail ;
 - (b) Violates the Constitution, Code of Ethics or any regulation of the Society or, in the opinion of the Society, has acted or acts in any manner which may prove unethical or detrimental to the character and interests of the Society;
 - (c) By his/her conduct or lack of it, brings actual or possible dishonour to the Society, or behaves in such a manner to bring the aims of the Society into actual or possible discredit;
 - (d) Deliberately, or for personal gain, provides wrong information to the Society or any of its office bearers or to officials or adjudicators at agricultural shows, or who makes changes to the identification of a Meatmaster animal with a view to misleading people;
 - (e) Has been found guilty of an offence under the Act; or
 - (f) Attempted to bribe an employee of the Society:

Provided that no proceedings for expulsion shall be initiated against any member of the Society unless the Secretary has at least 30 days prior to the date of the Council meeting at which such an expulsion is to be dealt with, addressed a registered letter to such a member notifying him of his proposed expulsion, and calling upon him, if he so wishes, to present, either personally or through his duly authorized representative, his side of the case at such a meeting of Council.

- 6.2.2 The Council or any committee of the Council shall have the right to make proper enquiries into the conduct of a member and to receive the information from such place, person, firm and/or institution and act upon it in such a manner as may please the Council.
The usual arrangements regarding witnessing will not apply to such bona fide enquiries and no member shall bring any action against the Council or its Committee with regard to any matter and/or case resulting from such enquiry or information obtained.
- 6.2.3 Any member who has been expelled shall be notified by the Secretary in writing within a period of three days from the date upon which the resolution affecting his expulsion was passed, or upon which his membership was forfeited.
- 6.2.4 Upon expulsion of a member, Council may at its discretion direct the Secretary forthwith to remove from the Flock Book and any other registers or records of the Society, the name of the member so expelled, and to apply to the Registration Authority for the cancellation of all registrations/recordings effected by it, in respect of animals bred by the expelled member and owned by him at the date of his expulsion. The Secretary shall moreover call upon the expelled member forthwith to deliver to the Society the birth notification/recording or registration certificates in respect of all animals bred and owned by him at the date of his expulsion.

- 6.2.5 A member who has been expelled will be responsible for the payment of all fees owed to the Society. Furthermore, that the registrations, transfers and other obligations prescribed by the Society for membership have been met.
- 6.2.6 Any member who has been expelled will be liable to settle all outstanding moneys owing to the Society.

6.3 ANNULMENT OF VOTING POWER

- 6.3.1 Any member who has for a period as determined from time to time by Council not registered any Meatmaster sheep in his/her name, or had not bought any Meatmaster sheep during such period, of which the transfer were recorded in his/her name, shall forfeit his/her voting power.
- 6.3.2 The annulment of the voting power of any member will not be applicable unless he/she has been notified in writing or as by e-mail by the Secretary, 30 days prior to the Meeting at which the annulment is to be effected.
- 6.3.3 The annulment of the voting power of any member shall not be lifted before the necessary steps had been taken to clear the situation which gave cause to the annulment of voting power.
- 6.3.4 The annulment of voting power shall in no way affect any other rights/obligations of membership.

7. RE-ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

Any person who has ceased to be a member of the Society, may again apply for membership in terms of Clause 4, provided that all the arrears with regard to fees and subscriptions have been settled.

8. COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

8.1 ELECTION OF COUNCIL

The affairs of the Society shall be controlled and administered by a Council consisting of six members to be elected from amongst the members present and entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting scheduled for this purpose:

- (a) The President and Vice-President shall be elected for an uninterrupted maximum period of three years, but will be re-elected yearly at the Annual General Meeting.
- (b) Council members shall after election serve up to the first Annual General Meeting when three members as determined by the drawing of lots shall retire. Thereafter, at each Annual General Meeting the three members longest in office shall retire.
- (c) The President and Vice-President and retiring members are eligible for re-election.

- (d) Nominations for council members must be done in writing accompanied by a proposer and seconder. Such nominations must be submitted to the Secretary at least 30 minutes before commencement of the meeting. Proposers have to ensure that the nominees are prepared to serve on Council.

Members may vote for as many vacancies which are available for Council members.

- 8.2 In addition to the elected members of Council, the following persons will also serve on Council in an advisory capacity without voting power-

(a) HONORARY LIFE VICE-PRESIDENT

For special services in the interest of the breed, persons may at an Annual General Meeting be elected as Honorary Life Vice-Presidents who are *ex officio* members of the Council without voting power. No more than two Honorary Life Vice-Presidents shall serve during the same period.

(b) SECRETARY

The Secretary of the Society who shall attend all meetings of the Society may participate in any discussions at such meetings, but shall not have the right to vote on any question or resolution at such meeting.

- 8.3 In the event of a member of Council die, resign membership or forfeit his position in compliance with Clause 8.5, Council may appoint a member of the Society to fill the vacancy, with full power for the ensuing unexpired period: Provided that the appointment *mutatis mutandis* falls under Clause 8.1(c). Council shall be regarded as fully constituted and shall have the power to operate as usual.

- 8.4 In the event of the Office of the President or Vice President becoming vacant before expiring of the period for which he/she was elected, the Council shall at its first ensuing meeting, electing by ballot another of its members to fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the period. This principle also falls under Clause 8.1(d).

- 8.5 Members of Council who are absent from two consecutive meetings without leave or a thorough explanatory reason, shall automatically forfeit their positions.

8.6 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of Council shall consist of the President or Vice-President and one member of Council, the latter to be appointed by Council. All actions or decisions of the Executive Committee shall be approved and confirmed or rejected at the ensuing Council Meeting.

9. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL

The Council shall, subject to the terms of the Constitution and subject further to the directives of the general meetings of the Society as given from time to time, have the power to do all such things it deems necessary or advisable in the interests of the Society and for the advancement and attainment of the Society's objects and in particular shall have the power -

- 9.1 to manage, insure, sell, lease, mortgage, dispose of, give in exchange, work, develop, build on, improve, turn to account or in any way otherwise deal with all, or any part, of its property and assets ;

- 9.2 to lend or borrow money for the purposes of the Society upon security as determined by it;
- 9.3 to enter into indemnities, guarantees and surety ships and to secure payment there under in any way;
- 9.4 to make donations;
- 9.5 to undertake and execute any trust;
- 9.6 to remunerate any person or persons for services rendered and to establish schemes for the provision of pensions, gratuities and other incentives for its office-bearers and employees;
- 9.7 from time to time, subject to the provisions of Clause 5.1, to adjust or revise subscriptions, fees or dues and to prescribe any such additional fees or dues as it may deem necessary;
- 9.8 to open one or more banking accounts in the name of the Society, and to draw, accept, endorse, make or execute any bill of exchange, promissory note, cheque or other negotiable instrument in connection with the conduct of the affairs of the Society;
- 9.9 to purchase, hire, take on lease or acquire for the purpose of the Society, buildings, land, goods, chattels and effects; to sell, mortgage, pledge, let, alienate or otherwise dispose of any movable or immovable property belonging to the Society, and to apply the consideration arising there from in such a manner as it may consider to be to the best advantage of the Society;
- 9.10 to invest, or in any other manner deal with any moneys not immediately required for the purposes of the Society, upon such securities and on such terms as it may deem fit and, from time to time, to change or realise any such investments; Provided that funds available for investment may only be invested with registered financial institutions;
- 9.11 to pay all costs and charges in connection with the administration and management of the affairs of the Society;
- 9.12 to collect and receive subscriptions, fees, donations, other dues and funds and to devote same towards the objectives of the Society and towards promoting the Meatmaster sheep breed;
- 9.13 to lend or borrow money for the purposes of the Society upon security as determined by it;
- 9.14 in accordance with Clause 5.3 to refuse inspection, registration, recording and other work for members whose accounts are overdue;
- 9.15 to convene a general or any other meeting of the Society, either in compliance with a special request thereto made in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution or otherwise if it is deemed necessary;
- 9.16 to appoint, dismiss or suspend such attorneys, or other legal representatives, auditors, agents, officers or officials or other employees for or from permanent,

temporary or special services as it may deem fit; to determine their powers and duties and to fix their remuneration and conditions of service and to require such security for the due performance of their functions as it may in particular cases deem expedient;

- 9.17 to institute, conduct, defend, compound or abandon any legal proceedings by or against any of its officers or officials or other employees in connection with the affairs of the Society, and to compound or allow, or ask for time for payment or satisfaction of any debts due to or any claim or demand by or against the Society;
- 9.18 to organize contracts outside the Republic of Namibia as well as abroad;
- 9.19 to recommend in accordance with the Act with regard to importation and exportation of Meatmaster sheep, semen and embryo;
- 9.20 to order an investigation by inspectors of the Society in any case where records are not properly kept or where any doubt should arise as to the correctness of the identity of any animal or animals, and to take such action as it may consider advisable in the interests of the Society;
- 9.21 to co-opt the services of any member of the Society or other person and to appoint persons or subcommittees upon such terms and with such powers as it may from time to time deem expedient: Provided that the President and Vice-President of the Society shall be *ex officio* members of all subcommittees with full rights and privileges;
- 9.22 to grant leave of absence to any member of Council or any official or employee of the Society, for such a period and upon such terms as it may in each case determine;
- 9.23 to elect a representative/s to the Annual General Meeting of the Association; and to nominate a person or persons to represent the Society on any committee, body or organization as may be necessary;
- 9.24 to elect a representative/s to the Annual General Meeting of the Association; and to nominate a person or persons to represent the Society on any committee, body or organization as may be necessary;
- 9.25 to receive and consider applications for membership and to accept or refuse such applications at its discretion;
- 9.26 frame, alter and amend rules and regulations for conducting the business and carrying out the objects of the Society;
- 9.27 to cancel membership of any person in accordance with Clause 6;
- 9.28 generally to perform all such acts as may be necessary for the welfare of the Society and the conduct of its affairs: Provided always that any action taken, or instructions given, shall not be contrary to the terms of the Constitution;
- 9.29 to investigate disputes arising from the application of the Constitution and to give decisions in regard thereto;
- 9.30 to formulate, alter and rescind rules and regulations for conducting the business and carrying out the objectives of the Society, to formulate or amend any schedule pertaining to the Constitution as may be deemed necessary from time to time;

9.31 generally to perform all such acts as may be necessary for the welfare of the Society and the conduct of its affairs: Provided always that any action taken, or instructions given, shall not be contrary to the terms of the Constitution.

10. MEETINGS

10.1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Executive Committee shall meet when necessary in order to carry out the duties delegated to it by the Council.

10.1.1 A member of the Council may, with the approval of the Chairperson, put any matter before the Executive Committee, provided that the complete nature of the matter is put in writing to the Committee. If the Chairperson deems the matter as important and urgent, he may give approval to the council member to attend the Executive Committee meeting and with the approval of the Executive Committee, address the meeting;

10.1.2 If the Chairperson does not regard the matter as important, he may refuse the request to attend the Executive Committee meeting and according to his judgement, he may put the matter on the agenda of the next Council meeting.

10.2 COUNCIL MEETINGS

10.2.1 The Council shall meet at such a time and place as it may from time to time determine, or as may be decided by the President: Provided that not less than two Council meetings shall be held in each financial year.

10.2.2 A special Council meeting

- (a) may be called by the President, or in his absence by the Vice-President, at such a time and place as such an office-bearer may decide; or
- (b) shall be called upon a requisition signed and addressed to the Secretary, by not less than two members of the Council stating the reasons for such a meeting.

10.2.3 Not less than 14 days prior to the holding of a Council meeting, written notice of the time, date and place of such a meeting shall be posted or e-mailed by the Secretary to each member of the Council.

10.3 GENERAL MEETING

10.3.1 A general meeting of the Society to be known as the Annual General Meeting shall be held once during the financial year, at such a time and place as may be determined by the Council.

10.3.2 At such an Annual General Meeting the Council shall submit its annual report, together with a duly audited balance sheet and statement of the financial affairs of the Society as at the end of the previous financial year.

Such an Annual General Meeting must be held-

- (a) not later than six months after the end of the financial year of the Society;

(b) within at least 15 months after the date of the last Annual General Meeting of the Society;

10.3.3 A special General Meeting of the Society, may at any time be called by-

- (a) the Council; or
- (b) the President (or in his absence by the Vice-President) and shall be so called, upon a written requisition signed and addressed to the Secretary, by not less than a third of the members of the Society stating the business to be transacted at such a meeting.

10.3.4 Not less than 60 days prior to the holding of the Annual General Meeting a preliminary notice of the time, date and place of the meeting shall be e-mailed by the Secretary to every member. Any member intending to put forward any matter for discussion at the Annual General Meeting shall give written notice thereof to reach the Secretary not less than 30 days prior to the holding of the meeting. No subject put forward by any member shall be put on the agenda of the Annual General Meeting unless the requisite notice of motion has been given in terms of this sub clause.

10.3.5 Not less than 30 days prior to any general meeting a final notice of the time, date and place of such a meeting together with the agenda of such a meeting shall be e-mailed or posted to each member of the Society.

10.3.6 No resolution shall be taken at a general meeting in respect of any matter unless notice thereof appears in the agenda sent to the members, with the notice calling the meeting, unless such a meeting agrees by two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote that any matter not specifically on the agenda, shall be discussed and voted upon.

10.3.7 Any general meeting may be adjourned by a two-thirds majority of the members present thereat and entitled to vote.

10.3.8 A two thirds majority is required to rescind decisions taken at a general meeting;

10.4 Chairperson

The President, Vice-President or an Honorary Life Vice-President, in this order, shall preside at all meetings and should all these office-bearers be absent from any meeting, the members present thereat shall elect another member to preside at such a meeting, and any person so elected shall in relation to that meeting, have all the powers and fulfil all the duties of the President:

10.5 Voting Procedures

All matters submitted to any meeting shall, save as is otherwise provided, be decided by the votes of the majority of those members present and entitled to vote, and in the event of an equality of votes, the person presiding at the meeting shall have a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote.

10.6 Subject to the provisions of Clause 8, voting at all meetings shall be by show of hands, unless voting by ballot is demanded by two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote in which event voting shall be by secret ballot.

- 10.7 No business otherwise properly and constitutionally transacted at any meeting shall be invalidated by reason only of the non-receipt by any member of the notice required to be given to such a person in terms of the Constitution.

10.8 QUORUMS

- 10.8.1 25% of the Society's members personally present at the commencement of any general meeting and entitled to vote shall form a quorum for such a meeting and three Councillors personally present at any Council meeting and entitled to vote shall form a quorum for such a Council meeting.
- 10.8.2 The President and Vice-President or Additional member of the Executive Committee personally present at the commencement of any meeting of the Executive Committee shall form a quorum.
- 10.8.3 If at any meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to a time and place determined by the members actually present, and at such an adjourned meeting the members present shall form a quorum: Provided that any meeting at which the President, Vice-President or an Honorary Life vice-President is present shall, if there is no quorum, stand adjourned for half an hour. The members then present shall form a quorum for the disposal of such business (other than any amendment to the Constitution) as the presiding member may declare to be of an urgent nature, and such an adjournment for half an hour shall be without prejudice to the rights of the meeting after dealing with such urgent business to adjourn to a time, date and place as herein provided.
- 10.7.4 When a meeting has been thus adjourned, a notice shall be sent to all relevant members within 14 days after the adjournment, in which shall be stated the time, date and place to which the meeting has been adjourned and the reason for the adjournment.

11. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- 11.8.1 A copy of the minutes of all general meetings shall be supplied to each member of the Society. Copies of the minutes of Council and Executive Committees and other subcommittees shall be supplied to all persons serving on the committee concerned.
- 11.8.2 The minutes of all meetings approved at a subsequent meeting and signed by the President or the person who may chair the subsequent meeting shall be proof thereof that all the proceedings were conducted properly and that all elections, appointments and resolutions adopted at the meeting are valid and binding.

12. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

- 12.1 The Council shall cause one or more banking accounts to be opened in the name of the Society, and any amounts accruing to the Society, shall be deposited in such banking account or accounts as the Council may direct.
- 12.2 All payments from the funds of the Society shall be effected by cheque or any other legal method, as approved by the Council, signed by the Secretary or a person appointed by the

Council and countersigned by the Auditors or such a person or persons as the Council may authorise thereto: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the Council from maintaining and operating a petty cash fund, or from paying in cash such ordinary and usual monthly accounts as do not in total exceed a sum determined by the Council, and provided that the total sum necessary for the payment of such accounts is drawn by cheque or any other legal method as approved by Council..

- 12.3 The Council shall cause proper books of account of income and expenditure to be kept in respect of the Society. All accounts shall be audited from time to time but not less than once every year by an auditor or auditors appointed by the General Meeting of the Society.
- 12.4 All the property of the Society shall be vested in the Council.
- 12.5 The income and property of the Society, from whatever source derived, shall be applied solely to the promotion and furtherance of the objectives of the Society, and no part thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly by way of dividend or bonus or otherwise, to any persons who at any time are or were members of the Society: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any employee or other person/s for services rendered to the Society.
- 12.6 If, upon the winding up or the dissolution of the Society there remains, after all debts and liabilities have been met, any property whatsoever, such property shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society, but shall be given or transferred to such other institution or institutions with objectives similar to those of the Society as determined by a majority decision of a general meeting of the Society.
- 12.7 The Society's financial year shall end on a date determined by Council and approved by a General meeting of the Society.

13. APPLICATION FOR INCORPORATION AND AFFILIATIONS

The Society shall apply for incorporation in accordance with the Act.

The Society may by a majority vote of at least two-thirds of the members personally present, voting and entitled to vote, at any general meeting, affiliate with or incorporate any association, society or organization having aims and objectives kindred to those of the Society.

14. ELECTION OF A REPRESENTATIVE/S TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Council shall elect a representative or representatives to the Annual General Meeting of the Association in accordance with Clause 9.23.

15. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 15.1 The Constitution may be added to or altered by a resolution approved by not less than two-thirds of the members present, and entitled to vote at a general meeting of the Society, of which meeting and of which proposed addition to, alteration, variation or amendment of the Constitution, not less than 30 days' written notice has been given to each member of the Society.
- 15.2 Any amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to the Registrar. No such addition to, alteration, variation or amendment of the Constitution, notwithstanding that it has been passed in the manner prescribed in Clause 15.1 shall be of any force or effect until and except it is confirmed and approved by the Registrar.

16 OFFICE OF THE SOCIETY

The office of the Society shall be at any centre as may be determined by the Council from time to time.

17. AUTHENTIC VERSION OF CONSTITUTION

This Constitution and Schedules hereto having been drawn, submitted and considered in English, the English version shall be deemed to be the authentic version.

18. DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY

If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the Society there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, such property shall not be paid to or be distributed amongst the members of the Society, but shall be given or transferred to such other institution or institutions having objectives similar to those of the Society as may be determined by a majority decision of a general meeting of the Society.

19. DELEGATION OF POWERS

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Constitution, any member may under power of attorney, duly executed and filed with the Secretary, authorize another person to sign on his behalf any birth notification, application for registration or recording, application for transfer, certificate of transfer, certificate of service, returns or reports or any other document in connection with the administration of a flock. Any such signature given by such an authorized person, shall be accepted by the Society as being as valid and binding as if it had been given by the member himself: Provided that nothing herein contained shall entitle such authorized persons in any manner whatsoever to participate in the nomination of, or voting for, any member of Council, or voting on any matter where his principal has a vote, or to attend any meeting on his principal's behalf.

20. NON MEMBERS

Such privileges of membership as Council may determine, may be conferred on non-members: Provided that there shall be no legal or other obligation on the Society to such non-members, provided further that all fees payable in respect of any services rendered by the Society to non-members, shall be as determined by Council and payable in advance.

21. STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE

21.1 Breed Standards and Characteristics

When selecting the genes necessary for the development of the Meatmaster all emphasis was placed on two aspects for consideration.

- What a sheep breed needs to keep costs as low as possible.
- What a breed needs for high fertility and production to maximize income.

The Breed Standards are thus very unlike any other sheep breeds. They were set up specifically to achieve what is set out above.

21.1.1 Coat Color and Skin Pigment

Any colour or combination of colours is acceptable. Good skin pigmentation around the eyes and over the ears is however essential.

Reason: To prevent cancer, eye infection and for stronger hoofs.

21.1.2 Head and Horns

- Ewes must be feminine tending to be polled.
- Rams must be masculine also tending to be polled.
- Lite horns in both sexes is however acceptable.

Reason: Easier to manage in sheep yards, less vulnerable to fly strike with horn injuries.

21.1.3 Coat Covering

Mainly a short coat with shiny hair and an underlying blanket of fluffy fine wool is preferred. The breed must never be shorn thus natural shedding ability of coat is essential.

Reasons:

- Lambs to service – 0 °C winter temperatures as well as extreme heat tolerance.
- Protection from ticks and flies (no fly strike)
- No shearing costs and danger times with weather after shearing.

21.1.4 Conformation and Legs

The sheep must be of average size with a functional efficient body conformation and well placed legs with excellent walking ability.

Reason: Easy lambing, enough meat with good movement.

21.1.5 Tail

The tail must have a good attachment, preferably not be longer than the hock and have a neat wedge shape with only a moderate amount of fat. It must never be necessary to have the tail taken off.

Reason: Prevent ticks and fly strike and also no stress or possible infection with tail cutting, less work.

21.1.6 Herd Instinct

The breed must have a strong herd instinct.

Reason: Vital for better management in rugged bush or mountainous regions. Prevents wandering and going through fences. Protect themselves and their lambs from predators.

21.1.7 Enforced Selection to Achieve the Following:

- Highly fertile sheep.
- Good mothers that rear their lambs adequately.

- Virile rams with excellent serving ability.
- Sheep with a good walking ability.
- Lambs that will reach a slaughter mass of 12kg to 25 kg A2 and A3 at 5 months of age.
- Breeders are encouraged to breed sheep suited to their environment and feeding conditions. Different types are thus allowed.
- 12kg to 15kg carcasses putting on more fat and less muscle to be sold at 3 months for the harsher dry and arid areas.
- 15kg to 20kg carcasses with moderate fat and more muscling for the largest part of our sheep farming areas.
- 20kg to 25kg carcasses with good muscling for the grain and pasture areas of the country.

In all aspects it must be an easy care sheep

Breeders are expected to do tick counts and wean their Meatmasters from dosing for internal parasites. Meatmasters should also be bred and management under natural conditions for the area with no or very limited licks or concentrates.

A quick glance at the above Breed Standards confirms the fact that there is no breed at present that has remotely the same breed standards. It is short and to the point, concentrating only on economic aspects. Take note of the fact that in total contrast to other breeds, it is nowhere stated what the neck and the shoulder attachment must be or for that matter the shape of the fore quarter, hind quarter, or any other body part.

The breed standards simply state a good functional efficient body conformation. The Breeders are determined to breed a profitable sheep, and then learn to love and like what they have bred and not just to try and breed another sheep pleasing to the eye. Economic aspects are all that count.

21.2 Performance Testing

Performance testing is compulsory for all Type # B Breeders of Meatmasters. 100 Day + 270 Day weights are recorded and processed to evaluate growth of lamb and mothers rearing ability, age of first lamb, inter lambing period and rearing status further determines the ewes breeding values. Performance testing is utilized solely to improve a breeder's Meatmaster's genetic ability to become more profitable.

21.3 Membership

Allowance is made for two types of members with the same voting powers:

21.3.1 Type #A

- No record keeping
- No performance testing
- They sell commercial Ewes and Rams
- Their ewes qualify for F1 Meatmasters
- They can also sell on Society Sales
- They can take part in shows

21.3.2 Type #B

- Full record keeping preferably on "SHEPHERD"/ HEADMASTER
- Must do performance testing

- Optional to join NSBA - Namibian Stud Breeders Association and sell registered performance tested Meatmasters
- They sell recorded or registered performance tested Stud Rams and Ewes
- Can sell on Society Sales
- Can take part in Shows
- They form the nucleus of Meatmaster breed improvement

21.4 Courses

The Meatmaster Society offers two courses to members, breeders or any interested parties.

21.4.1 Beginners course (No Examination)

Covers the following:

- What and how to fill in forms and all admin concerning membership.
- Meatmaster Breed Standards
- Selection and breeding of Meatmasters
- What to look for when buying Rams and Ewes
- Basic Record keeping
- Basic Performance testing

This course will qualify you to do your own inspections.

21.4.2 Advanced Course

Deals with the following in much greater detail:

Meatmaster breed standards

Record keeping the "SHEPHERD PROGRAM"/ HERDMASTER PROGRAM

Performance Testing

- How to record
- What to record
- When to record
- When to send
- How to use when selecting more profitable Meatmasters

This course will qualify you to act as a judge, instructor and ambassador at Meatmaster shows and courses.

BYE-LAWS

1. FLOCK BOOK

The registration system of the Society shall consist of the Flock Book (to be known as the Meatmaster Flock Book), be it computerized or in any other form which shall be divided into two main sections, namely:

- 1.1 Developing register; and
- 1.2 Stud Book Proper Section.

1.1 DEVELOPING REGISTER

(a) **F1**- Any animal which originates from a flock of which the breeder can give proof of origin and that comply with the Minimum Breed Standard, or any animal of the desired phenotype, shall be eligible for recording in the F1 Section of the Developing Register.

(b) **F2** - The progeny of F1x F1, F1 x F2, F1 x F3, F1 x F4 mating shall qualify for recording in the F2 section of the Developing Register provided that they comply with the minimum breed standard and in respect of which all other recording requirements have been met.

(c) **F3** - The progeny of F2x F2, F2 x F3, F2 x F4 mating shall qualify for recording in the F3 section of the Developing Register provided that they comply with the minimum breed standard and in respect of which all other recording requirements have been met.

(d) **F4** - The progeny of F3x F3, F3 x F4, mating shall qualify for recording in the F4 section of the Developing Register provided that they comply with the minimum breed standard and in respect of which all other recording requirements have been met.

(e) On application by the Society, the Meatmaster Sheep breed may be granted registration by the Registrar of Animal Improvement, as an Approved Registered Breed; Provided that all requirements regarding registration have been met. Thereafter all F4 Meatmaster sheep shall be re-classified and registered in the Studbook Proper section of the Flock Book. Until the Meatmaster Breed have been granted an Approved Registered Breed, the status of all F4xF4 matings shall remain as F4 of the Developing Register.

1.2 STUD BOOK PROPER SECTION

After approval of being a Registered Breed the following animals qualify to be registered in this section of the Flock Book provided that they comply with the minimum breed standard and in respect of which all other registration requirements have been met-

- (a) the progeny of F4 x F4 or F4 x Studbook Proper animals of the breed;
- (b) the progeny of F4 animals and Studbook Proper rams of the breed; and
- (c) the progeny of Studbook Proper animals of the breed

2. PREFIX AND DESIGNATION MARK

2.1 No animal shall be accepted for recording unless the breeder has previously, through the Society, registered with the Association for his exclusive use, a prefix by which all animals bred by him and eligible for birth recording or shall be designated, and a designation mark by which such animals shall be identified.

2.2 Application for the registration of such a prefix and designation mark shall be made to the Secretary and shall be accompanied by such a fee as may be prescribed from time to time by Council or by the Association.

2.3 No transfer of a prefix shall be allowed from one breeder to another, except under such conditions and to such persons as are provided for in the Bye-laws to the Constitution of the Association.

2.4 HERD DESIGNATION MARK

2.4.1 Each breeder will choose his/her own herd designation mark, which will then be approved by the Society and Association.

2.4.2 The Society's official system of marking for the uniform and permanent identification of all animals for inscription in the Flock book will be ear tags of metal or plastic or tattooing.

2.4.3 All lambs born alive and not destroyed within 7 days after birth shall be marked in numerical sequence, starting each year with number one.

2.4.4 Tags to be preferably inserted in the left ear. The tag and tattoo mark shall bear the following: the breeder's herd designation mark, year number abbreviated (last two figures) and sequence number.

3. IDENTIFICATION

All Meatmaster sheep shall be identified either by ear tags or tattoo markings. The identification shall bear the following:

- (a) the herd designation mark which shall not exceed 4 digits, and
- (b) the year numbers followed by
- (c) the sequence number of the lamb. The year sequence shall be two digits and the lamb sequence shall not exceed four digits.

Meatmaster sheep may not be sold or transferred unless properly identified.

4. NAMES

The name of a Meatmaster sheep shall consist of the prefix, identification letters of the breeder and the identification marks (year number and sequence number) of the sheep concerned and may not exceed more than 30 digits.

5. SERVICE AND INSEMINATION CERTIFICATES AND JOINT OWNERSHIP OF RAMS

5.1 Service or Insemination Certificates

5.1.1 If a pregnant Meatmaster ewe, recorded or eligible for recording, is sold, the seller shall supply the buyer with a service certificate (natural mating) or an insemination certificate (artificial insemination).

5.1.2 Such a certificate must state the name and recording number of the sire, the name and recording number of the dam concerned, and the date of service or insemination.

5.1.3 In the case of the exact service date being unknown, the service certificate must state the period during which the dam concerned was running with the sire indicated and further that such a dam could not have been served by any other sire during such a period.

5.2 Embryo Transfer Certificates

Schedule O certificates have to be issued and completed on flushing a ewe. These certificates shall be submitted to the Registration authority according to Clause 7.

5.3 Joint Ownership of Rams

5.3.1 In the case of joint ownership of rams the full name and address of each joint owner must be on record with the Registration Authority.

5.3.2 In the case of ewes served by rams jointly owned, all parties concerned or by the person appointed by the joint owners, must sign the service certificate.

5.3.3 If a breeder allows the use of his sire or sires by a fellow breeder, the applicable stipulations in the Act and this Bye-law shall be adhered to.

6. RULES GOVERNING ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (A.I.)

6.1 Meatmaster animals which have been begotten through A.I. shall be eligible for recording: Provided that all requirements of the Act and the Constitution have been mutatis mutandis complied with.

6.2 No birth notification shall be accepted for the purpose of recording unless it is endorsed "Begotten by A.I.".

6.3 Irrespective of the provisions of Bye-law 7.1, where different sires are used for the supply of semen for the artificial insemination of the same ewe at two consecutive heat periods less than 17 days apart, no resultant progeny shall be eligible for recording unless the male parentage has been confirmed by a proven scientific method of confirming parentage.

6.4 The Society reserves the right through its officers to supervise and/or inspect the keeping of records in connection with A.I. by its members.

6.5 The Society and the Registration Authority reserve the right to refuse to record the progeny resulting from A.I. should any of these rules not be fully adhered to.

6.6 Breeders resident in the Territory outside Namibia who enjoy the privileges of recording of animals under the provisions of the Constitution, may apply for recording of progeny begotten by A.I.: Provided that the semen is obtained from a source approved by the Society, and provided further that the collection of semen, the handling thereof, the insemination of the animals and the maintenance of records shall be effected in such a manner as may be duly approved by the Society from time to time.

6.7 **COLLECTION AND STORAGE OF SEMEN FROM RAMS NOT APPROVED FOR SEMEN COLLECTION AND THE REGISTRATION OF THE PROGENY SO BEGOTTEN**

The Society confirms that subject to the provisions of the Act, breeders shall have the right to collect, freeze and store the semen of their own rams for use in their own flocks, and progeny resulting from the use of such semen shall be eligible for registration or recording: Provided that –

- (a) details of the sire concerned and the sale of the semen have been submitted to the Association;
- (b) the official DNA laboratory number of the ram has been submitted to the Association

6.8 IMPORTED SEMEN

Progeny begotten by artificial insemination from imported semen shall qualify for recording on condition that the two generation pedigree was submitted to the Registration Authority

7. RULES GOVERNING EMBRYO TRANSFERS (E.T.)

7.1 All Meatmaster animals which have been begotten as a result of E.T., shall be eligible for recording: Provided that –

(a) both the male and female animals that gave rise to the embryo concerned, were approved for the purpose by the Society;

(b) except in the case of an animal begotten as a result of E.T. and imported in utero, all the following documents are submitted to the Association within 90 days of each embryo transfer-

- (i) the certificates reflecting the official DNA laboratory numbers of the male and female animal that gave rise to the embryo concerned;
- (ii) a certificate signed by a veterinarian, an embryo transferor, or, in the case of intra-flock E.T., by the owner, to the effect that the provisions of the Act have been complied with.

(c) in the case of an animal begotten as a result of E.T. and imported in utero, the following evidence and documents endorsed by the Flock Book Society (or body recognized by the Society and the Association) in the country of origin are submitted to the Association within 30 days of the arrival of the recipient dam in Namibia -

- (i) evidence of the service or insemination and flushing of the embryo donor;
- (ii) evidence of the transfer of the embryo concerned and date thereof to the relevant recipient dam;
- (iii) two-generation pedigrees of both donors;
- (iv) DNA profiles of both donors; and
- (v) evidence that both donors conform to the minimum performance and other requirements as may be determined by Council;

(d) a birth notification in respect of an animal resulting from E.T. is submitted on the preprinted birth notification form;

(e) parentage in each instance is confirmed by an approved scientific method of confirming parentage, unless otherwise determined by the Society and the Association; and

(f) all other requirements of the Constitution in respect of birth notifications, registrations, recordings, inspection and/or performance, are complied with.

7.2 The Society reserves the right through its officers to supervise and/or inspect the keeping of records in connection with the practice of E.T. by its members.

7.3.1 Breeders resident in the Territory outside Namibia who enjoy the privileges of registration or of animals under the provisions of the Constitution, may apply for registration or recording of progeny begotten as a result of E.T.: Provided that the fertilized ova are obtained from a source approved by the Society, and provided further that the collection of ova, the handling thereof, the in ovulation of the animals and the maintenance of records shall be effected in such a manner as may be duly approved by the Society from time to time.

7.3.2 If a ewe which had been approved for embryo transplant is sold, the seller must submit the buyer with a certificate to certify the number of ovum stored. A similar certificate is to be handed to the registration Authority.

7.4 The Society and the Association reserve the right to refuse to register the progeny resulting from E.T. should any of these rules not be fully adhered to.

8. IMPORTED EMBRYOS

In-ovulation certificates in regard to embryo transfers from imported ova shall be accepted provided it conforms mutatis mutandis to the requirements of the Constitution.

(a) A certificate issued by a recognized institution in the country of origin-

- (i) Name, identification and registration number of the ovum donor ;
- (ii) Date and place of collection;
- (iii) Number of viable embryos collected from the donor
- (iv) That the embryo collection is for export to the Territory ; and
- (v) Name and address of the importer; and

(b) In the case if a fertilized embryo a certificate to be signed by the recognized body from the country of origin submitting the name, date and place where the insemination was done.

9. GESTATION PERIODS AND INTERLAMBING PERIODS

The gestation period for Meatmaster sheep shall be between 140 and 160 days. The minimum acceptable period between two successive lambs out of one ewe shall be 140 days.

10. NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

10.1 The breeder of an animal born from a recorded dam shall notify the Registration Authority of its birth, whether it be born dead or alive or retained for recording or otherwise.

10.2 Notification of each birth shall be submitted electronically or a notification on the forms provided, within 120 days after birth of lamb.

10.3 Council may, notwithstanding Clause 10.2, accept a birth/application for recording which reached the Registration Authority more than 120 days but less than 180 days after the birth of a lamb, subject to a penalty (Annexure A)

A notification of birth/application for recording received more than 180 days after birth shall only be accepted on approval by Council and on payment of a double penalty as determined by Council.

10.4 In the event of multiple births, the breeder shall in addition to the particulars ordinarily required, also record on the birth notification the number and sex of the other twin, triplets, etc., as the case may be.

10.5 When submitting a birth/application for recording a copy must be kept by the breeder. If submitted electronically the detail must be kept on the computer memory or other form applicable.

10.6 On receipt of an approved notification or recording, the registration authority will issue a recording certificate for the animal concerned.

10.7 Breeders shall submit all birth notifications/recordings direct to the Registration Authority.

10.8 The birth notification/application for recording/registration shall contain a declaration in the following terms:

"I declare that the pedigree, breeding particulars and identification marks of the animals described herein are correct, and that all the requirements of the Constitution and the Act relating to birth notifications and recordings have been complied with."

10.9 A notification of a birth shall also be accompanied, in the case of an animal imported in utero, by the necessary certificates confirming parentage of both the ewe and ram, endorsed by the Herd Book Society (or body recognized by the Society and the registration Authority) in the country of origin, to the effect that -

- (a) the identity of the sire, as indicated by the said documents, is correct; and
- (b) the sire conforms to the minimum performance and other requirements as may be determined by Council.

10.10 IMPORTED MEATMASTER SHEEP

Imported Meatmaster sheep shall only be eligible for recording; provided that the application for recording is accompanied by –

- (i) A certificate of registration for the export issued by a competent authority in the country of origin;
- (ii) Proof that the Meatmaster sheep conforms to the requirements as from time to time determined[[as well as a two- generation pedigree of the said Meatmaster sheep.]]

11. PARENTAGE VERIFICATION

Regardless of the specification of Bye-Law 3 the Council reserves the right to at any time when found necessary to request a DNA sample of any Meatmaster sheep for identification. The Society will bear the cost in the case when required by the Society and if the records of the breeder are found to be correct. In a case where the breeder is at fault, he will be responsible for the cost involved.

12. REQUIREMENTS FOR RECORDING/REGISTRATION

12.1 With the exception of Meatmaster sheep which are according to Bye-Law 1.1(a) eligible for recording no Meatmaster sheep shall qualify for recording or registration unless birth notified according to Bye-law 10 and both parents recorded.

12.2 Inspection shall be a prerequisite for the recording and/or registration and no Meatmaster sheep shall be inspected before the age of 10 months.

12.3 No Meatmaster sheep shall be accepted for recording unless its sire was 8 months and its dam was 10 months old at birth of the lamb.

12.4 Any animal of which the particulars supplied on the birth notification or accompanying certificates are open to question may in the discretion of Council be debarred from registration or recording.

12.5 The Registration Authority will on receipt of an official birth notification/application for recording or registration document, issue a proof of birth notification for all Meatmaster sheep. Breeders shall keep proper record of the sex, birth dates, breeding as well as the sale, deaths, castrations, etc. of their animals. Noncompliance may result in disqualification of further recording by Council. Breeders may at any time be requested to submit such records to an inspector.

13. INSPECTION AND DUTIES OF INSPECTORS AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

13.1 Council shall appoint inspectors to inspect Meatmaster sheep.

13.2 The inspectors shall use an inspection schedule (Annexure B)

13.3 The inspectors shall inspect each eligible animal upon presentation of the application for recording or registration, and shall satisfy themselves that the age, identification, and other details as appearing on the said application is correct and correspond with the animal offered for inspection. Furthermore, they shall satisfy themselves that the animal conforms in all respects to the minimum inspection and performance standards as determined by Council. Disqualified sheep shall be listed on an inspection form, signed by the inspector, and submitted to the Registration Authority for cancellation.

13.4 Any breeder dissatisfied with an inspector's decision may lodge a written appeal to the Secretary within three weeks after the inspection. Such an appeal must be accompanied by a deposit of an amount as prescribed by Council from time to time. A board of appeal appointed by Council shall then re-inspect the animal or animals in question and, if the appeal is upheld, the relevant deposit shall be refunded, if not the appellant will not be refunded. He will also be responsible for the Appeal boards travelling costs.

13.5 Inspectors may, in addition to the inspections referred to above, perform other duties with the approval of Council, including demonstrations and lectures at farmers' days or judges' courses under the auspices of Agricultural- Unions and –Societies

13.6 Inspectors may do classification or grading of animals upon application by the breeder concerned at a fee determined by Council from time to time.

13.7 Inspectors acting on the instructions of Council may at any time, without previous notice, carry out a general inspection of any breeder's flock.

13.8 No breeder shall act as an inspector of his own animals.

13.9 Inspection cost will be for the breeders account.

14. RECORDS OF MEATMASTER SHEEP

14.1 Records of Meatmaster sheep shall be kept and recorded computerised by the Registration Authority.

14.2 The flock book shall reflect the identification, the identification of the sire and dam, date of birth, the name of the breeder and owner as well as date of inspection.

14.3 On receipt of an approved application, the Registration Authority will issue a proof of birth recording or registration certificate. The recording- or registration certificate will reflect the identification, date of birth, sire and dam as well as the name of the breeder/owner.

15. TRANSFERS

15.1 For the sale of recorded Meatmaster sheep or ovum recipients the seller shall submit, furnish the Registration Authority with the details of new owner as well as date of sale and furnish the Society with the prescribed fee as may be determined by Council from time to time .-

15.2 Any seller who transfers sole ownership of an animal, or part ownership in a ram, shall within 30 days of the date of such a transfer, furnish –

(a) the Society/Association with a registration certificate or proof of record, indicating the details of the transfer duly completed on such document; and

(b) the Society with the prescribed fee as may be determined by Council from time to time:

Provided that should such an application be received by the Society more than 30 days, but within 60 days, or more than 60 days, but within 90 days after such a transfer, the fees payable in respect of such a transfer shall be respectively double and treble the prescribed transfer fee.

15.3 Any application for such a transfer received by the Society more than 90 days after such a transfer shall be accepted and dealt with by the Society subject to such fees as Council may determine from time to time.

15.4 With Application for transfer, the registration authority will issue a new recording document or registration certificate to the new owner.

15.5 For the purpose of 15.4 above, the date of transfer is taken as the date on which the animal left the property of the seller.

15.6 If the animal to be transferred is:

(a) a pregnant female, the seller shall, together with his application for transfer, furnish the Registration Authority with a certificate specifying the name, identification number and registration number of the ram by whom she was served together with the service date/s, or of

the ram with whose semen she was inseminated, and the insemination date/s, whichever the case may be. The seller shall in addition furnish the buyer with a copy of such a certificate; (b) a recipient dam, the application for transfer shall be accompanied by the birth notification referred to in the Bye-laws, issued by the Registration Authority and other certificates in compliance with the relevant Bye-law.

15.7 Change of ownership shall be regarded when a Meatmaster sheep is-

- (a) sold, exchanged or given away as a present;
- (b) inherited
- (c) recorded in the name of more than one joint owner and if any of the joint owners waive their partnership.

15.8 Should the seller for any reason whatsoever fail or refuse to take any steps to effect such a transfer, including failing or refusing to deliver the original birth notification or registration/recording certificate and should the buyer be willing to pay such fees as may be laid down by Council, Council may take such steps as it deems fit in order to effect the transfer.

15.9 Transfer between spouses, parent to child, child to parent (including grandchildren and in-laws) the transfer fee will be 50% of the normal applicable fee.

16. ALTERATIONS OR ADDITIONS TO A PROOF OF RECORDING OR REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

Any alteration or addition to the essential information or particulars officially recorded on any recording document or certificate, which has not been initialed by the responsible official of the Registration Authority, or any unauthorized endorsement or remark on such a certificate bearing upon the essential information or particulars contained therein, shall render such a document or certificate invalid.

17. DUPLICATE RECORDING OR REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

The Registration Authority may upon written application, accompanied by a statement by the applicant setting out all the relevant circumstances, issue a duplicate or replacement of any registration/recording certificate or birth notification list issued by the Registration Authority, which has been mislaid, mutilated or lost: Provided that such an application shall be made by the person in whose name the animal concerned was last registered/recorded and upon payment of such a fee as may be determined by Council from time to time.

18. EXTENDED PEDIGREE CERTIFICATE

Any person may request the Registration Authority to issue an extended pedigree certificate of a Meatmaster sheep which is recorded in his name

19. CANCELLATION OF ANIMALS

19.1 Any certificate or document of an animal issued by the Association shall be returned to the Association for cancellation within 30 days after its death, sale for slaughter, culling, castration or any other circumstances requiring the animals cancellation or endorsement in terms of the Constitution of the Society or Association.

19.2 No progeny resulting from an animal which has been cancelled in terms of Bye-Law 19 shall be registered after the date of such cancellation.

20. RE-INSTATEMENT OF ANIMALS

In the event of of an animal having been cancelled, such animal may be re-instated in the records of the Association only on recommendation of the Society and approval of the Association: Provided that the application for re-instatement is made by the person who applied for the cancellation of such animal. The re-instatement of any such animal shall be effected upon payment of such fee as may be determined by the Council and Association from time to time.

21. IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION OF ANIMALS, SEMEN AND OVA

21.1 Applications to import or export animals, semen or ova shall, in terms of the Act, be submitted in duplicate, on forms available from the Registrar, to the Society, together with the prescribed fee and the Society shall forward one copy together with its recommendation thereto, and the required documents reflecting the details referred to in the relevant Bye-law, to the Registrar.

21.2 Council shall determine minimum performance and other requirements for the importation and exportation of animals, semen and ova in terms of the relevant Clause of the Constitution, and no such importation or exportation shall be recommended to the Registrar by the Society unless the said requirements are complied with.

21.3 Imported animals and animals resulting from the importation of semen or ova which comply with the minimum requirements referred to in the relevant Bye-law and the requirements of the Constitution shall be eligible for registration or recording.

21.4 The Registration Authority may, upon application, issue export certificates in respect of animals, semen or ova in the form desired by the Society and approved by the Association. (E.T.)