

## The WHFF Council met at the 15<sup>th</sup> WHFF Conference and General Assembly in France on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

The WHFF Council would like to wish you, your families, and your teams a healthy and prosperous 2024.

Many of the topics considered during 2023 were discussed by email, and then firmed up at the face to face Council meeting in France. They were reported on at the General Assembly and presentations are available on the WHFF website. Topics include the Biodiversity Project, Clones, Virtual Cow and Genetic Trends for Holsteins.

At the Council meeting after the General Assembly, the Council re-elected Cherilyn Watson (New Zealand) as President and László Bognár (Hungary) as Vice President until the next General Assembly.



The Council are pictured - standing left to right Jun Kurita (Japan), Suzanne Harding (SG), Vice President László Bognár (Hungary), Martino Cassandro (Italy), Thierry Ménard (France), Jos Buiting (Netherlands) and Stephan Schneider (Germany). Seating left to right President Cherilyn Watson (New Zealand), Sartaj Sarkaria (Canada) and Lindsey Worden (USA).

At this time, the Council member for South American had not been appointed. Following the General Assembly, Carlos Ignacio Herrera (Colombia) was appointed as the Africa, Latin and South American representative on the Council.

If you have any concerns, you wish the Council to discuss, please either get in touch with your regional representative or email [worldholstein@gmail.com](mailto:worldholstein@gmail.com)

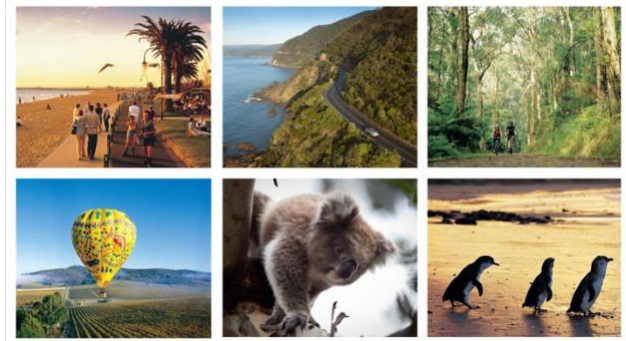
### New member of WHFF - Kazakhstan Republican Chamber of Dairy and Dual Purpose Breeds of Cattle.

The Council extends a warm welcome to the family of the World Holstein Friesian Federation.

### 2023 WHFF World Conference

The WHFF World Conference and General Assembly, was held in Le Puy du Fou, France on the 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023. The event, hosted by Prim Holstein France, was a great success. It was held in conjunction with their Centenary which is a tremendous achievement. There are photographs and all presentations on the WHFF website. Many thanks to Prim' Holstein France for organizing a great event.

The next WHFF World Conference will be held in Melbourne, Australia in 2028.



### 2023 ICAR Conference

The 2023 ICAR Conference was held in Toledo, Spain. The Conference sessions were centered around sustainability and resilience. All presentations are available to download on [www.icar.org](http://www.icar.org).

### 2024 WHFF Type Classification Workshop

The 16<sup>th</sup> WHFF Type Classification Workshop will be hosted in Italy by ANAFIBJ. The workshop will be held on 17 and 18 April 2024 in Cremona with a full 2 day program. Participants are asked to arrive on the 16<sup>th</sup> and leave on the 19<sup>th</sup> April. invitation letter, registration and travel forms can be found on the home page of the WHFF website. Two new members of the Type Harmonisation Working Group

Dorothee Warder (Germany) and Rafaella Finocchiaro (Italy) have been proposed and approved by the Council. Later this year Stefan Rensing will be retiring. The WHFF Council thanks Stefan for all the work he has done for WHFF and wishes him a happy retirement.

**Monogenetic Traits and Registration Working Group.**

The WHFF Monogenetic Traits and Registration Working Group have had a full program of discussions which were reported to the General Assembly. These include an updated process for reporting new genetic traits and a guideline for Interpreting Genetic Traits. The Working Group also discussed potential new traits of BLIRD, Muscle Weakness and SLICK, together with a process for removing codes from the Master List of Genetic Traits, that are no longer tested for or where the incidence is very low.

Jiri Motycka (Czech Republic) is retiring at the end of January. We all wish Jiri a happy retirement and thank him for his contribution to the Working Group. There is a new member of the Monogenetic Traits and Registration Working Group - Chiara Franzoni Migliorati of ANAFIBJ. Lindsey Worden will continue as the Chair of this Working Group.

**WHFF Inclusivity of more Production Data Task**

The Task Force participated in the ICAR AMS Summit in September 2023, and will continue to work with ICAR to promote the importance of Herd Books. Lindsey Worden (US) is standing down as the Chair of the WHFF Inclusivity of More Production Data Task Force and will be succeeded by Sartaj Sarkaria (Canada). Sartaj will be joined by Lindsey and Stephan Schneider (Germany) on the Task Force.

**WHFF Parentage Sub Committee.**

The Parentage Sub Committee has been discontinued. The work the Sub Committee was set up to monitor has been overtaken by the usage of SNP technology though out the Dairy Industry.

**WHFF Biodiversity Study**

It is not too late to join the WHFF Biodiversity study. If you are interested, please contact the Secretary General.

**Dates for your Diary:**

**The following dates are planned:**

16 - 19 April 2024	WHFF Type Classification Workshop
22 - 24 May 2024	45th ICAR Session, Bled, Slovenia
2028	WHFF Conference and General Assembly, Australia

**WHFF Web Site**

Please remember to send in your news stories, show details, and pictures of your Holstein Champions for the website: [www.whff.info](http://www.whff.info)

