

USSA Committee Application

A few years ago, the USSA invited non-board members to participate in our various committees. This has been extremely valuable in terms of getting broader input on association activities as well as surfacing potential new future board members. Committees meet via Zoom, the frequency dependent on how active each committee wants or needs to be. One challenge that we have encountered is that some committees became so large it was difficult for the chair to manage, and to ensure all committee members were able to share their opinions and ideas, and for the committee to reach consensus. To keep all of our committees at a manageable size, we have created this short application. An application is not an automatic appointment. The president will appoint committee members with a goal is to be inclusive of all types of Suffolks and a diversity of opinions. Applicants will be notified of committee appointments by December 20.

Committees open to non-board members

Marketing & Outreach, Greg Ahart, Chair

We need to do more to reconnect at a grassroots level with state sheep organizations, for both the breed and the larger sheep community. We see enthusiasm for the breed in the number of new members we are onboarding but know we can do a better job of communicating and engaging with both those new members and our existing members. Our online and industry presence will receive the attention that it needs to promote our great breed.

Breed Improvement, Joe Emenheiser, Chair

Not to be confused with flock improvement, the Breed Improvement committee focuses on methods of defining, evaluating, and improving Suffolk sheep as a whole, relative to the USSA mission and vision. We aim to include and consider the full diversity of Suffolk types, regions, and industry applications, and we work in close collaboration with Education and Marketing and Outreach. Examples of recent committee undertakings include revisions to the breed standard and the development of a no-tolerance policy for the "D" dwarf gene at USSA-sanctioned shows and sales. We continue to focus on opportunities to strengthen the USSA-registered Suffolk's identity and role in the broader U.S. sheep industry.

Education, Dennis Sorensen, Chair

Lots has been done, and lots more needs to be done as we look at how we can better serve our membership and the sheep industry at large. We have heard from you that education is an important role for USSA. There will be significant overlaps between this committee and Marketing and Outreach, Event, and Breed Improvement committees to provide the best educational efforts to meet our member's needs.

Applicant Name _____ **E-Mail:** _____ **Cell:** _____

First Committee Choice: _____

If appointed to this committee, my goal(s) would be:

(Optional) Second Committee choice: _____

If appointed to this committee, my goal(s) would be:

Please submit the completed application to info@suffolks.org by December 15.