**2017 Australian Ayrshires Ltd President’s Report**

**President: Scott Braendler 26/11/2017**

Hello Australian Ayrshires Members,

I would firstly like to take this opportunity to pass on our thanks and congratulations to our inaugural President of Australian Ayrshires Ltd, Mr Michael Hentschke for the outstanding contribution he has given to the Ayrshire Breed in Australia prior to and during the amalgamation process and also in his term as President since that time which began on January 1st 2015.

 It was unfortunate that Mike felt the need to retire as Australian Ayrshires President, and Federal Council Member in March of this year due to personal and working commitments, but we acknowledge the difficult decision it would have been for Mike to have made, knowing his love for the breed and the inputs he has made because of this.

Mike’s devotion to promoting the Ayrshire Breed in so many ways shows through his love of photography of cows and the extent of his help and introduction of youth involvement also, being so very evident.

It gave me great pleasure in receiving the nomination to step into the position of President, with the support of all fellow Federal Council Members, and I look forward to future advancements of our Breed as we continue the positive motion we have gained since the amalgamation brought all Ayrshire Members together.

We have welcomed Miss Caitlin Liebich to Federal Council in May of 2017, and with her tremendous attributes she has already given prior to this time, with her website and other promotional contributions, it is fantastic to have a young mind and new set of eyes to help guide our aims and objectives that include all of our Membership age groups.

Successes seen by our Members in the show ring, in World Photo competitions, in Production Records and classification over the past 12 months has been outstanding, and this shows the strength and advancements our breed has made in recent times.

We have recently altered our registration rules to coincide with the vast majority of World Federation Member Countries, and acknowledge bloodlines of the Ayrshire Breed to include some European Cattle as 100% pure Ayrshire, which brings us back in line with prior judgements in this regard. Very few sires now carry a percentage lower than 100%, with having blood of another breed only will there be a percentage placed to that corresponding sire/ Dam.

The 2020 World Conference Itinerary has been finalised, advertisements made in member country Journals, and websites, and further progress is being made for this event. Bookings are starting to be made and quite a bit of interest from overseas has been evident. This event is something we all look forward to with excitement.

News from State Branches has been favourable, and it is great to see the promotion being done from State to State for our Breed. Our breed is held in high regard of other breeds as they see the bright future we have with the number of youth we have involved and comradery amongst our breeders.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Anne Ryan, Janelle Johnson and our Breed Director, Mr Eric Ross, all part of LBC. The communication between you all and Australian Ayrshires makes it easy to continue in a positive way.

Finally to the Federal Council Members of Australian Ayrshires, the whole membership acknowledges and thanks you for your time, input and love of the Breed. I too wish to personally thank you all for your participation in meetings and events around the country, and to our Treasurer Greg Klatt and Vice President Bill Macadam, well done on a great year and Thank you for those extra phone calls, and ways in which you help us to lead this organisation, along with your support to me in the past 7 months or so in my role.

I ask that you accept this as my 2017 President’s Report.

Kindest Regards,

Scott Braendler

President