

# **HANDBOOK**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The North American BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep Association and Registry's Mission is to:

1. Maintain breed records through registration.
2. Protect the breed with a breed standard to preserve the original Southdown type and characteristics for which these sheep are known while including colored wool for the Spinner's market.
3. Bring all BABYDOLL Southdown breeders to a forum for guidance in raising sheep.
4. Promote the BABYDOLL Southdown sheep.
5. Promote youth involvement in raising sheep.
6. Raise scholarship funds for students seeking degrees in agriculture or related fields.
7. Promote research for scientific augmentation for retaining the standard of the BABYDOLL Southdown.
8. Promote research through volunteer donations to the Scrapie Eradication Programs or Ovine Studies at various universities.

## **AN ASSOCIATION IS VISUALIZED**

The Association was conceptually formed in the winter of 2001, and officially incorporated June 10, 2003. There was a need to fill the missing link between sole proprietor owned registry with one that encourages member participation, gives members the opportunity to meet and exchange information for the purpose of making better breeding choices. When you join the Association, you are joining a network of caring people and breeders with knowledgeable facts of the BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep.

## **ARISTOCRATIC EXISTENCE**

Many have referred to the sheep as a new type, a novelty, and/or a miniature sheep breed. By comparison, today's sheep, the BABYDOLL is relatively small and the coining of the name "Teddy Bear Face" leaves many to believe the sheep as a novelty or new breed; when in fact, the BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep is an Old-World Breed of Sheep. The Southdown Sheep roamed the downs (hills) of South England long before importation into the United States. No doubt, one of the oldest down breeds reaching over 500 years old, and the sheep ancestors were known for foraging on found herbs growing wild on the downs.

The modern Southdown Sheep that is common in walks and paddocks today is the result of the little sheep being bred up in size through imports of the Southdown from New Zealand. There were small flocks of the little sheep, nestled on small farms in North America left untouched by the livestock modernism movement of the 60's. Today, the little sheep is coming back into the small holder, and making its way back to the prestige it once captured in eyes of the American Sheep Breeder. The statures of the BABYDOLL Southdown's of today are near the original size of the importations of the Southdown's in North America as early as the 1700's. BABYDOLL Southdown's are docile by nature, and have a small blocky type appearance with great rear-end muscling and an aristocratic gait.

The Association is here to offer you greater pedigree information, news about the sheep industry, and the means to link all BABYDOLL Southdown breeders to the web in one great location. The Association is a non-profit Association and Registry that includes: membership categories, registration for your off-white fleeced sheep and your black fleeced sheep, elected officers, youth scholarships, low-cost youth memberships, online meetings, membership gatherings, and most will find the cost of registration most favorable. Visit the website, ask questions if needed, and explore the adventure of an exciting Association and Registry where the goals are to preserve and promote the BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep here in North America.

Membership for the North American BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep Association and Registry is open to all breeders, pet owners, wool fanciers, youth, or persons interested in supporting the Association.

### **The North American BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep Association and Registry Breed Standard**

In 1780, John Ellman from Glynde, England, took the local sheep known as Southdowns and systematically selected, developed and standardized them into what we now recognize as the considerably improved BABYDOLL Southdown; a breed destined to make its name a presence in sheep farming across the world because of Master Breeder John Ellman's work. In her book, author Valerie Porter wrote, "John Ellman once said, that it was more difficult to maintain a good breed than to raise it to first class and he bequeathed to today's breeders the challenge of continuing what he began." The NABSSAR agrees with this philosophy and believes today's breeders should maintain the integrity and work Mr. Ellman began and continue to honor his work by keeping the Southdown conformation consistent - without crossbreeding or breeding lesser quality animals. Not every BABYDOLL Southdown lamb born should be allowed into a breeding program. Breeders must know what characteristics to look for and carefully choose their breeding stock. We at the NABSSAR believe breeders should take the time to educate themselves by carefully reading and learning the breed standard

When learning about the NABSSAR breed standard, a clear understanding of the difference between the terms: "Discriminated Against" and "Disqualifying" is important. These terms are defined as such:

- "Discriminated Against," means the animal meets the breed standard, but has a specific characteristic not ideal. These animals can be bred to others with strong points complementing the other's weakness - the intentions resulting in a lamb with better qualities than the parents.
- "Disqualifying," means a specific quality does not meet the breed standard and animals with this quality cannot be registered. Therefore, these sheep should not be used in a purebred breeding program. In a well thought out breeding program, genetic variation will occur. However, it is the breeder's obligation to weed out (cull) animals with poor conformation or undesirable traits thereby improving the breed as a whole.

Please note when the terms fleece and wool are used, fleece refers to what is on the animal and wool is the product made from the fleece.

## **GENERAL CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE OF BABYDOLL SHEEP**

BABYDOLL Southdown sheep are known for their docile dispositions. For this reason, they are often kept as pets, but they are also used in a variety of ways such as grass mowers and weed eaters in vineyards and orchards and 4H projects. They are small in stature and are easy to handle. Their small size and efficient metabolism require less acreage per animal compared to other breeds of sheep. Thus, they are referred to as being "easy keepers." They are excellent mothers and are known for having multiple births. The BABYDOLL Southdown is known for its abundant carcass (relative to its size) and flavorful meat and is crossbred with lighter weight breeds of sheep to produce lambs of higher quality for market. They are also prized for their wool.

**Head:** The characteristics of the head give each breed its individuality and uniqueness. The BABYDOLL Southdown's head should be wide and level between the ears, with no sign of a dark poll as the BABYDOLL is a polled (hornless) breed. Small, loosely attached or nubby scurs are sometimes seen on rams, which are considered a fault and discriminated against. Solid 1" or larger scurs or horns are a disqualification. The head is medium length and moderately broad, but not so broad to be a birthing obstruction. Extremely broad heads are considered a fault and discriminated against. The ears set level with the head, neither drooping nor so upright they are perpendicular to the ground and should be covered with some degree of fleece.

**Muzzle & Face:** The muzzle is the area on the face covered with short fuzzy fleece and hair a shade from very light tan to brown to cinnamon to mousy gray color in the off-white fleeced sheep and black color in the black-fleeced sheep. The muzzle should be moderate in width to ensure efficient grazing, as well as moderate in length. It should be straight to slightly dished, but not Roman (arched) which is a breed disqualification. The wide muzzle gives the BABYDOLL sheep its classic smiling look and also makes it an efficient grazer.

**Nose & Lips:** The muzzle is the area on the face covered with short fuzzy fleece and hair a shade from very light tan to brown to cinnamon to mousy gray color in the off-white fleeced sheep and black color in the black-fleeced sheep. The muzzle should be moderate in width to ensure efficient grazing, as well as moderate in length. It should be straight to slightly dished, but not Roman (arched) which is a breed disqualification. The wide muzzle gives the BABYDOLL sheep its classic smiling look and also makes it an efficient grazer.

**Ears:** The ears should be of medium thickness and moderate in length. They should be level with the poll (top of the head) - neither drooping nor perpendicular to the ground. The size should be in proportion to the head and covered with short wool which can be mixed with short, rough hair. However, slick ears are discriminated against. Black or brown-specked ear skin is common.

**Eyes:** The eyes should be large and bright. Acceptable eye color is predominately a shade of yellow to brown. Any other color is a disqualification, the sheep cannot be registered. Entropion, which is inverted eyelids, is discriminated against.

**Incisor Teeth:** The incisor teeth should meet the dental pad. Sheep with a slight under or overbite with teeth just barely touching the edge of the dental pad are discriminated against; whereas, a sheep with a severe under or overbite, with distinct space between teeth and edge of dental pad is a breed disqualification.

**Neck:** The neck should be moderately long and upright, wide at the base and flow smoothly into the shoulders without wrinkles in the skin.

**Carriage:** The legs should be short and straight and should stand squarely at each corner of the sheep's body. Rear legs should stand wide, but squarely under the sheep with a slight angle of the stifle and hocks and a slight angle of the pastern.

**Shoulders:** The shoulders should be well muscled and flow smoothly into the ribs. This is often expressed as being "well laid into the ribs." They should also be level with the back. The width at the shoulders should be less than the width at the hips to facilitate easy lambing. Excessively wide, flat-topped shoulders are discriminated against.

**Back:** The back should be somewhat longer than the animal is tall. The combined length of measurements of the loin and the hind saddle should be slightly longer than the measurement of the shoulder to the last rib.

**Loin:** The loin should be long, wide and thick.

**Ribs:** The ribs should be deep and wide, thick through the heart girth and well sprung.

**Rump:** The rump should be wide, of medium length, and relatively flat.

**Tail:** The tail head carriage should be high and in a line level to the chin when the sheep is standing in a natural alert stance.

**Hindquarters:** The hindquarters should be wider than the forequarters and have good width between the hipbones.

**Thighs & Twist:** The thighs and twist should show deep and heavy muscling.

**Rear Legs:** The rear legs should stand wide, but squarely under the sheep with a slight angle of the stifle and hocks and a slight angle of the pastern.

**Hooves:** The hoof color should be black or gray and may have white stripes. Solid white hooves are a disqualification.

**Height:** All measurements are at the highest point of the middle of the shoulder and perpendicular to the ground on a shorn sheep. Adult sheep should be between 18-24" tall. Most BABYDOLL ewes fall into the 20-23" range and most rams into the 22-24" range. Sheep 17-18" or 24-26" are discriminated against, but can be useful in a well thought out breeding program. A sheep shorter than 17" or taller than 26" will be disqualified. These sheep may not be registered or shown as a BABYDOLL Southdown.

**Skin:** Of a delicate gray to bright pink on off-white sheep and of dark tones on black sheep.

**Fleece:** Of fine texture, tight with great density and of sufficient length of staple, covering the whole of the body. Fleece should go down the hocks and knees and right up to the cheeks with a full fore top but not around the eyes or across the bridge of the nose. The fleece and hair covering around the eyes and cheeks to the muzzle should be short and not so thick as to ever cause the sheep to be "wool blind." Tear ducts should not be too woolly. Both "wool blindness" and woolly tear ducts are discriminated against. Wool of 3/8 blood or 56 to 60-skein spin count or 24-28 microns in diameter, with a springy crimp is preferred. Solid color. No more than one blemish/birthmark (somatic mutation) 4-inches, or less on any area of the animal. These typically present as a solid black area on an off-white sheep and fade within a few weeks after birth.

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Wool has been evaluated several ways over the centuries. Here are some of the terms used when speaking about wool and its qualities:

Staple length = The length of twelve months growth of fiber not stretched.

Crimp = Waves in the individual fiber. Fiber with closer and smaller crimp (or waves) will be softer and fiber with crimp larger and farther apart will be coarser.

Blood = A way to interpret fineness of the wool. Usually displayed in fractions.

Spin count = Measurements of spun yarn on a wool skein.

Microns = A minute measurement.

Most old-type Southdowns - by this we mean the off-white BABYDOLL Southdowns - are evaluated as having wool 1/2 to 3/8 blood.

- 1/2 blood translates to a 60 to 62-skein spin count and a fiber of 22.5 to 25 microns in diameter, with medium-fine crimp and a 2.5 to 3" staple length
- 3/8 blood translates to a 58-skein spin count and a fiber of 24.5 to 26.5 micron in diameter, with medium crimp and 2.5 to 3.5" staple length

Many of the black BABYDOLL Southdowns are 1/4 blood, which means they have coarser fleece than the off-white Southdowns. They usually have a 27-to-31-micron count, medium-coarse crimp and 2.5 to 4" staple length.

Typically, the off-white wool is more valuable because it can be dyed any color.

NOTE: When shown, BABYDOLL Southdown's should be shown in short fitted fleece.

## **BABYDOLL SOUTHDOWN COLORS**

### **White/Off-White**

The typical BABYDOLL Southdown is an off-white color with muzzle and legs a shade from very light tan to brown to cinnamon to mousy gray. White and off-white are terms often used interchangeably - some people refer to these sheep as "white" while others refer to them as "off-white." However, the NABSSAR breed standard considers them off-white.

- The color of the muzzle and legs of an off-white sheep should be some shade from very light tan to brown to cinnamon to mousy gray. Mottled shades of these colors are accepted, but even colors are preferred. The short-colored fleece and hair on the muzzle should ideally cover the entire muzzle and extend from the corners of the mouth to a rounded point between the eyes on the adult sheep.
- If a sheep has predominately bright white fleece everywhere on its body including the fleece and hair on the muzzle and/or legs this is a breed disqualification. These sheep cannot be registered.

### **Black**

Black is the color of the fleece at skin level in the lamb. Sometimes this color will fade to lighter shades of gray as the sheep ages, but it is still considered a black sheep. In some sheep, the sun may bleach the outer fleece to a light reddish-brown color. This is only sun bleaching and is NOT considered a color.

- The muzzle and legs of a black sheep should always be black.
- The muzzle of a black sheep often gets scattered gray hairs as they age.

### **ACCEPTABLE FLEECE COLORS:**

- **Off-white fleeced sheep** with muzzles and legs a shade from very light tan to brown to cinnamon to mousy gray. Mottled shades of these colors (i.e., light and dark brown) are accepted but even colors are preferred.
- **Black fleeced sheep** are born with black fleece, muzzle and legs. Over time, the fleece should remain black to a medium gray at skin level, but a very light gray fleece will be faulted. The outer fleece on a black sheep may become sun bleached to a light reddish brown, but the sheep is still considered to be black.

**NOTE:** A blemish/birthmark (somatic mutation) is considered a fault, but the sheep can be registered. No more than one blemish/birthmark (somatic mutation) 4-inches, or less on any area of the animal. These typically present as a solid black area on an off-white sheep and fade within a few weeks after birth.

#### **UNACCEPTABLE FLEECE COLORS:**

- **Off-white fleeced sheep with a black muzzle and/or legs** is a breed disqualification and the sheep cannot be registered.
- **Off-white sheep**, if BOTH the muzzle fleece/hair and the legs' fleece/hair are bright white, it is a breed disqualification. These sheep cannot be registered.
- If the fleece/hair on the muzzle or the legs is bright white; but, one or the other has some tan in it, it is a breed discrimination. These sheep can be registered.
- **Black-fleeced sheep with an off-white muzzle and/or legs** is a breed disqualification and the sheep cannot be registered.
- **Bright white-fleeced sheep** with predominately bright white fleece on their body including the fleece and hair on the muzzle and/or legs is a breed disqualification. These sheep cannot be registered.
- **Spotted:** Spotted/spot carrier sheep are NOT registrable with the NABSSAR:
  1. Any offspring from spotted parents cannot be registered. These offspring are spotted regardless of whether they are black or off-white.
  2. Black sheep with any white on them when they are born cannot be registered regardless of whether the white fades within a few months after birth. A black Babydoll is SOLID black at birth.

**Rams:** Rams should look more masculine and are usually larger than ewes. They should be rectangular looking on a moderate frame. They must have both testicles descended. If one or both are not, it is a breed disqualification and the ram cannot be registered.

**Ewes:** Ewes should have a broad, well-attached, but not pendulous udder with two teats. She should be capable of producing and raising twins.

**Udder:** The udder should be wide and well attached with two teats. Extra teats are discriminated against.

**NOTES:** Rams and ewes should move with freedom of gait and remain active and sound for 8-10 years. Properly managed ewes and rams should be easy keepers and maintain thrifty condition without grain if kept on good quality pasture or hay with the exception of lactating ewes and lambs in their first six months of life. When selecting replacement-breeding stock, consider selecting for sheep with the genetics to produce sound conformation providing for easy keeping and easy birthing abilities to their offspring. Breeding for undersized sheep often produces poorly muscled and unthrifty lambs. Breeding integrity is of utmost importance.

## **SUMMARY**

There are two types of "Faults" when judging the BABYDOLL Southdown, CONFORMATION FAULTS and BREED TYPE FAULTS. A good way to describe this is conformation or structural faults are generally more serious as they affect function and reproduction. Breed type faults are more about looks, color, loose scurs, or spots. Faults can be described as very mild and hardly noticeable to severe or disqualifying faults, one reason for the point system and how it is used when judging a sheep for overall conformation and breed type. There are very few "perfect" BABYDOLL Southdowns; most have their strong points and their weak points. Careful selection of breeding stock will improve the breed as a whole.

## **DISCRIMINATED AGAINST (CONSIDERED A FAULT)**

- Extremely broad heads
- Loosely attached or nubby scurs
- Slick ears
- Entropion (inverted eye lids)
- Wool blindness
- Woolly tear ducts
- Slight under or overbite, with teeth just barely touching the edge of the dental pad
- Excessive wrinkles
- Excessively wide, flat-topped shoulders
- Sheep heights 17-18" or 24-26"
- Extra teats
- A blemish/birthmark (somatic mutation) in the fleece
- Black faced sheep with very light gray fleece

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- Evidence of cross breeding
- Solid 1" or larger scurs or horns
- Any eye color other than predominately a shade of yellow to brown
- Roman nose
- Bright solid pink nose/lip leather, or those without any pigmentation (pale white)
- Severe under or overbite, with distinct space between teeth and edge of dental pad
- Solid white hooves
- Sheep shorter than 17" or taller than 26"
- One or both testicles not descended
- Off-white fleeced sheep with a black muzzle and/or legs
- Off-white sheep, if BOTH the muzzle fleece/hair and the legs' fleece/hair are bright white
- Black-fleeced sheep with an off-white muzzle and/or legs
- Bright white-fleeced sheep
- More than one blemish/birthmark (somatic mutation) 4-inches, or less, on any area of the animal
- Spotted/spot carrier sheep

- **Now you be the judge...**

Breeding Practices: The following Scale of Points are to be used when judging the conformation of a BABYDOLL Sheep and should be considered when breeding and showing.

HEAD (10)	Wide and level between the ears, with no sign of a dark poll. Ears set level with the head - neither drooping nor so upright to be perpendicular to the ground. Covered with some degree of fleece.
MUZZLE, FACE, & NOSE/LIPS LEATHER (2)	<p>Color of the fleece/hair on the muzzle of an off-white fleeced sheep should be a shade from very light tan to brown to cinnamon to mousy gray with even colors preferred. Blends of similar shades are acceptable in the fleece/hair of the muzzle. The muzzle of a black/gray sheep should be black. There may be some graying on the nose of black sheep with age.</p> <p>In the off-white sheep, if BOTH the muzzle fleece/hair and the legs' fleece/hair are bright white, it is a breed disqualification. If the fleece/hair on the muzzle or the legs is bright white; but, one or the other has some tan in it, it is a breed discrimination.</p> <p>The short-colored fleece/hair on the face should ideally cover the entire muzzle and extend from the corners of the mouth to a rounded point between the eyes on the adult sheep. The fleece on the cheeks, forehead and around the eyes should not be so long as to obstruct vision.</p> <p>In the off-white sheep, the nose/lip leather should be black, dark to light gray or bluish gray. Speckles are common and are acceptable but solid colors are preferred. Please note lambs often are born with pink noses and coloring will come with time. In the black sheep, the nose/lip leather should be solid black, no other color is accepted. A bright solid pink nose/lips, or those without any pigmentation (pale white), are breed disqualifications and the sheep cannot be registered.</p>
EYES (2)	Large and bright. Predominately a shade of yellow to brown in color.
NECK (5)	Wide at base, strong and well set on the shoulder.
CARRIAGE (11)	Legs - short, straight, and well placed at corners. Lower leg fleece color similar to muzzle color. The colored fleece of the legs should extend from the feet to about the knees where it meets the body fleece.
SHOULDERS, CHEST, & BACK (15)	Shoulder well laid into the ribs and level to the back. Chest deep. Back level from shoulder to tail with only a slight slope of the croup. Overall body length slightly longer than tall.
LOIN (5)	Long, wide and thick.
RIBS (5)	Should be deep and wide, thick through the heart girth and well sprung.

RUMP/CROUP & TAIL (5)	Rump wide and of medium length, with only a slight slope of the croup. Tail is large and set high on a line almost level with the chin when standing in a natural alert stance.
HIND SADDLE (THIGHS & TWIST) (5)	Full well-muscled hind saddle, well-let-down, with a deep wide muscling through the twist and legs.
HEIGHT (15)	18-24" is ideal. A height from 17-18" and from 24-26" is considered a fault and is discriminated against. Heights below 17" and above 26" are a disqualification.
SKIN (10)	Of a delicate gray to bright pink on off-white sheep and of dark tones on black sheep.
FLEECE (10)	Of fine texture, tight with great density and of sufficient length of staple, covering the whole of the body. Fleece should go down the hocks and knees and right up to the cheeks with a full fore top but not around the eyes or across the bridge of the nose. Wool of 3/8 blood or 56 to 60-skein spin count or 24-28 microns in diameter is preferred. Solid color. No more than one blemish/birthmark (somatic mutation) 4-inches, or less, on any area of the animal. No spotted/spot carriers.
TOTAL: 100	

## Code of Ethics

Members of the North American BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep Association and Registry subscribe to the following code of ethics. They agree to follow the guidelines listed herein candidly and forthrightly:

1. To practice and support the goals, philosophy, and procedures as set forth by the North American BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep Association and Registry.
2. To keep accurate records individually and turn in proper papers so that the North American BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep Association and Registry is accurate overall.
3. 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 on the web or in public constitutes creating disharmony.
4. To refrain from the introduction of other breeds into BABYDOLL Southdown sheep to be presented for certification and registration.
5. To provide accurate and appropriate registration documents to purchasers of one's breeding stock.
6. To utilize safe animal husbandry practices to ensure the health and well-being of one's North American BABYDOLL Southdown sheep flock.
7. To be candid in relation to the genetics of one's flock of sheep; to be forthright in dealing with the public and potential purchasers of one's stock.
8. To conduct oneself with stateliness and integrity at any breed organization function in such a manner as to enhance the image of the North American BABYDOLL Southdown sheep over oneself; to refrain from misrepresenting the organization; to respect the Officers of the Association.

9. To be knowledgeable about the North American BABYDOLL Southdown Breed Standard and thoroughly familiar with the various faults one may encounter in a North American BABYDOLL Southdown sheep-breeding program in order to preserve and protect the authenticity of the gene pool of the North American BABYDOLL Southdown breed of sheep.
10. To honor John Ellman by breeders' integrity in dealings and by efforts to maintain a good breed standard.

## **NABSSAR NEWS**

The Paddock, our newsletter, is e-mailed in PDF format free to all paid memberships. We keep the NABSSAR's expenses down by e-mailing the newsletter to your e-mail account on file with us four times per year.

The Paddock provides a means for breeders and newcomers alike to exchange information, ideas, and experiences. Many of our members like The Paddock so much they print them for future reference as they have tips and articles related to raising BABYDOLL sheep. This is one of the ways we keep in touch with our members and member participation is welcome. Any announcements, articles, or information about upcoming shows or results of shows attended by our members can be submitted to the editor.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Facebook Public Page - <https://www.facebook.com/NABSSAR/>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/nabssar.sheep/>

Pinterest - <https://www.pinterest.com/nabssar/>

Twitter - <https://www.twitter.com/nabssar/>

## **CONFORMATION AND HEALTH**

Conformation and health are important guidelines to the Association; therefore, the Association discourages experimenting with genetics in an uncontrolled, non-scientific manner to produce smaller sheep below 18". The breeding practice of an Association member should be to protect the appearance and stature so that the BABYDOLL Southdown sheep continues to resemble its ancestral links from the 16th-19th century.

## **HEALTHY ANIMALS**

Producing healthy animals should be a part of the members' breeding practices. Rams that do not have two testicles of approximately equal in size in the scrotum should be castrated for market or sold as pet wethers (castrated male). Any sheep that has serious undesirable defects should not be sold as breeding ewe or ram lambs. Any sheep with serious hereditary health problems or abnormalities should be culled. Piebald faces are considered a defect and should not be used in a breeder's breeding program. The Association encourages all members to enroll in the volunteer Scrapie Eradication Program in their respective states.

## **Ovine Progressive Pneumonia (OPP), Johne's, and Other Health Testing**

We hope to prevent the spread of diseases affecting our Babydoll Southdowns. Diseases are often preventable, but are still found in many flocks across the United States. By educating and providing support, we are making members more aware of sheep health issues in the industry as a whole.

By testing your Babydoll Southdowns, you are educating yourself on the health of your flock, and in so doing, helping members make better breeding choices, while increasing the value of your flock through longevity.

## **Adherence to Standards**

Inspection of flocks, individual BABYDOLL Southdown sheep, policing of farm or farm visits is not required for registration. However, if breed standards or registration rules are found to be violated, flock or individual sheep registrations may be suspended for a period. Violations of breed standards will be subject to membership vote to exclude or suspend sheep registrations. No one individual person(s) will be kicked out of the Association or registrations revoked without 2/3 vote of the membership registry. The Board, acting on the best interest of the Association, suspends member privileges for up to six (6) months. The Association goals are to promote and protect the BABYDOLL Southdown sheep; therefore, it is not the policy to police farmers/breeders; nonetheless, it is to advise, be informative, collect breed data, and protection of the breed standard.

## **NAMING RULES**

Your registered farm name will be used when naming your sheep. The naming of sheep is acceptable along with their ear tag numbers, and may not infringe on another member's identifier or protected name and should differ by one letter. Farm names will appear on the Certificate of Registry.

## **HOW TO APPLY FOR REGISTRATION**

Please make an application for each animal individually and identify each animal by its complete ear tag number.

## **General Information on Sheep Registration**

**One must be a member of NABSSAR to register sheep:** All members may register purebred BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep and lambs from NABSSAR registered sheep. The fees for registering sheep or lambs are posted hereafter; the charge for adult sheep is \$11.50. Lambs under 1 year of age are \$9.50 at all times until the board changes fees.

**False Presentation:** An individual making a false presentation for registration is a violation of Code of Ethics and Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws; therefore, sheep registration shall be revoked. Application for registration is available on the Association's website.

**Any Crossbred individuals:** Any crossbred individual species are not eligible for registration. Heights between 17-18" and 24-26" are discouraged, and considered faults; nonetheless, a BABYDOLL Southdown and registration will not be denied, but breeding a sheep with height faults is discouraged. Heights below 17" and above 26" are a disqualification and these sheep will be denied registration.

**Record Keeping:** Each breeder is responsible for keeping accurate records of his/her flock and breeding. A ewe will be exposed to only one ram per cycle so the sire of the lamb(s) is known. Pedigree records may be kept so the exact breeding of all sheep in the flock is known. To register lambs sired by rams not owned by the breeder, include a Ram Lease Certificate signed by the owner of the ram.

**Photos:** All sheep registrations and all transfers of sheep will require a close and clear printed photo of the head of the sheep being registered or transferred. The photo must show the complete USDA official ear tag number (USDA Scrapie Eradication Program tags). The photos need to be looking directly at the sheep, not over the sheep, not looking at the side of the face. We want to see the mouth/nose/muzzle, both eyes, both ears, and the piece/side of the scrapie tag with the COMPLETE ID number. The NABSSAR will be using the head shot photos to serve as a visual double check to ensure the sheep's ear tag number(s) is/are correct on the Certificate of Registration (CoR).

**Ear Tags:** All sheep must have individual ear tags affixed before registration, and as per USDA rules. Ear tags may always be placed on the sheep's left ear. If showing the sheep, a tattoo is recommended. A tattoo with the Flock Prefix number may be placed on left ear with sheep's number on the right ear. The Association encourages the use of two systems for marking. Two systems for marking could include an ear tag and a tattoo or an ear tag and a microchip.

If the sheep is ever re-tagged, for any reason, the owner of the sheep must send the ORIGINAL Certificate of Registration (CoR) to the registry, along with a new head shot of the sheep with the new ear tag in its ear. The ear tag information updates will be made on the CoR by the registry and signed by the registrar.

You must be the current owner listed on the CoR, of the sheep, in order to request the ear tag information of the sheep be updated by the registry.

A sheep may not be able to be registered and/or transferred if the paperwork or the CoR ear tag information does not match the ear tag on the sheep. When purchasing a sheep, filling out paperwork on a sheep, etc. please check, double check, even triple check the sheep you have is the sheep listed on the paperwork or CoR.

**Registration Certificates and Pedigrees:** NABSSAR provides registration certificates with each lamb or sheep registered with up to a five (5) generation pedigree. If a pregnant ewe is transferred, the producer/owner must be listed as breeder.

**Transfers:** To record the change of ownership complete the NABSSAR Transfer information on the back of the sheep's Certificate of Registration and mail it to the NABSSAR Registrar with the required transfer fee and photo.

## **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

By joining the Association along with the submittal of fees, you are agreeing to the Terms of Membership, Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and the Code of Ethics. Memberships are renewable each year except for lifetime memberships, which are for life. Memberships are not prorated- if a person joins in October membership fees are again due January 1.

Privileges of an Adult Single, Adult Dual, Family, Junior+, Junior Single, Junior Multiple, Lifetime Adult Single and Lifetime Adult Dual Memberships: Adult members of the Association are entitled to attend, speak during open forum and vote at the membership meetings of the Association. Memberships shall be based on one Adult membership one vote. In addition, members in good standing shall be kept informed of the activities, and be notified of all membership meetings, have annual reports, up-to-date Bylaws made available to them by the website for download.

Junior memberships do not include the right to vote or speak at meetings. Upon reaching the age of 18, a Junior member may apply for an Adult membership if they wish to have a vote and run for office in the Association. Upon turning 21, Junior members must sign up for membership as an Adult with the exception of the Junior+.

### **Definition of Membership**

Active Member is one who owns or breeds the North American BABYDOLL Southdown Sheep or pet owners, wool fanciers and youth, or person interested in supporting the Association. These persons may become an active member in NABSSAR by making application and paying membership fees.

Adult Single Member: Any person over the age of 18. The cost is \$20.00 for the entire year. An Adult Single member has one (1) vote in the Association. The Adult Single will have their own membership number and only their name will appear on the Certificate of Registry issued for their sheep. They "own" the sheep and any lambs born.

Adult Dual: Any two domestic partners over the age of 18 (this is not for business partners unless the business partner is the domestic partner). The cost is \$30.00 for the year. The Adult Dual members each get one (1) vote, for a total of two (2), in the Association. Both members will have the same membership number and they will both be listed on the Certificate of Registry issued for their sheep. Both members "own" the sheep and any lambs born.

Family: One (1) or two (2) domestic partners over the age of 18 (this is not for business partners unless the business partner is the domestic partner). The cost is \$30.00 for the year. If a Junior previously included in the family membership has reached the age of 21, and is still living at home, they may be added to the Family membership as a Junior+ for an additional \$15.00. In addition, any number of Junior family members (under the age of 21) can be added to this membership for an additional \$5.00 per Junior each year. This membership allows one (1) vote per adult or Junior+ (21 and older). All Family members will have the same membership number and they will all be listed on the CoR issued for their sheep. All members "own" the sheep and any lambs born.

Junior Single: One Junior under the age of 21\*. The cost is \$15.00 for the year. The Junior member is not allowed to vote or hold office in the Association. The Junior will have their own membership number and only their name will appear on the Certificate of Registry issued for their sheep and any lambs born.

Junior Multiple: Two or more Juniors from the same family under the age of 21\*. The cost is \$15.00 per Junior for the year. The Junior members are not allowed to vote or hold office in the Association. All of the Junior Multiple members will have the same membership number and they will all be listed on the Certificate of Registry issued for their sheep. All of the members "own" the sheep and any lambs born.

\*Upon reaching the age of 18, a Junior member may apply for an Adult membership if they wish to have a vote and run for office in the Association. Upon turning 21, Junior members must apply for membership as an Adult.

Lifetime Adult Single: Same as the Adult Single, except the membership is for life and the cost is \$300.00 for their lifetime.

Lifetime Adult Dual: Same as the Adult Dual membership, except the membership is for life and the cost is \$450.00 for their lifetimes.

**What is an agriculture-learning environment?** Any person(s) under the age of 21 participating in 4H, FFA, AG Program, College Ag Studies, or a working farm.

Available from the North American BABYDOLL Southdown Association:

Fees subject to change.

- Annual Member-Breeder Acknowledgment on the Associations web site: free
- Annual Link from the Associations web site to your web site: \$10.00
- Logo member license to paid up memberships not in arrears: free
- Flock Name registration: one-time fee \$10.00
- Social Networking: free
- Access to the Online Pedigree Database (OPD): free
- Electronic Submission Process (ESP) of our forms and head shot / ear tag photos: forms free, photos 1-4 = \$0.50; 5-8=\$1.00; 9-12=\$1.50, etc.
- Health Support Committee: testing reimbursement program
- NABSSAR advertises in magazines: free for members
- Newsletter, The Paddock: free
- Five generation pedigree and colors listed on registration papers: free
- \$1000.00 Youth Scholarship: free
- Showing sheep information and NABSSAR sponsorship of many shows: free
- Banners and Signs for our members to use: mailing costs
- NABSSAR Tri-fold Pamphlet: free
- Annual Members' Photo Contest: free
- Bill of Sale/Trade: free

## **NABSSAR YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP**

We may accept donations or contributions for distributing as an agriculture Scholarship. The criterion for the NABSSAR Agriculture Scholarship Program is as follows:

### **Terms**

The North American Babydoll Southdown Sheep Association and Registry (NABSSAR) offers one (1) \$1000.00 USD scholarship to a junior NABSSAR member each year to encourage participation in Babydoll Southdown sheep activities and to encourage them to pursue a higher education in a science or livestock related career after high school.

Scholarship funds may be used towards the student's tuition, books, and/or room and board. Scholarship recipients are not restricted from pursuing or accepting other forms of financial aid, assistantship, scholarships or tuition waiver.

1. The applicant must be a NABSSAR junior member & must receive at least a 2.5 GPA (grade point average) during the senior year in High School or previous year of college whichever is more current.
2. Applicants must be accepted for enrollment at an accredited college, university, community college or technical school by June 1st of each calendar year. Their academic major must be agricultural or be potentially agriculture science related.
3. The applicant must answer all of the questions on the application.
4. The applicant must submit a short-typed essay not exceeding one (1) page addressing the following: Describe what your experiences as a Babydoll Southdown owner has taught you that would help you to achieve your career goals. Include information about your participation, leadership role or volunteer work in livestock judging, 4H, FFA or other agriculture related youth groups. Include any honors or awards received through the above organizations. Your essay should include when you started with Babydoll Southdowns, the size of your flock, your management responsibilities, and how you promoted your sheep, for example - showed the sheep, used the wool, etc.
5. The applicant must include 2 letters of reference as to your character, preferably from a teacher, a veterinarian or other animal healthcare professional.

### **Application Process**

1. The application is a fillable .pdf. Complete and print OR print out and complete the Scholarship form located on our website.
2. Attach a copy of your most recent transcript and your proof of enrollment.
3. Attach your essay.

Deadline for application is June 1<sup>st</sup> and scholarship winner will be notified by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.

Send Scholarship Application to: Babydoll Southdown Scholarship, c/o Diane Spisak, 4744 Shawnee Rd, Wellsville, KS 66092

## **YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

A NABSSAR appointed will review the applications and award the scholarship.