



AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES COUNCIL OF NSW LTD

Sustain And Strengthen Agricultural Shows

TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF GROUP DELEGATES

Agricultural Societies Council of NSW Ltd (ABN 69 150 951 670)

(Updated 2025)

Introduction

The Agricultural Societies Council of NSW (ASC) is the peak body representing over 190 Agricultural Show Societies across New South Wales. For governance and representation purposes, these Societies are divided into 15 Groups — 14 geographical Groups plus the Next Gen Group.

Each Group elects two Delegates, who are then appointed as Directors on the ASC Board. This ensures the voices of all regions and the Next Gen perspective are included at the highest level of the organisation.

This dual structure means Group Delegates carry two related but distinct roles:

- As a Group Delegate: elected to represent your Group and its Show Societies, acting as a vital link between Shows, your Group, and the ASC.
- As an ASC Director: once appointed to the Board, you are subject to the duties and responsibilities of a company director under the Corporations Act and ASC governance framework, acting in the best interests of the ASC as a whole.

Understanding when you are wearing your delegate hat and when you are wearing your director hat is critical to fulfilling your responsibilities effectively.

Role Overview

Group Delegates are elected representatives chosen by their Group to act as the vital link between that Group, its Show Societies, and the ASC. In this role, Delegates:

- Carry information and feedback from their Group to the ASC.
- Share ASC policies, services, and opportunities back to their Group and member Societies.

Delegates are then appointed as Directors of the ASC Board. When acting as Directors, their responsibilities are different: they do not represent their Group in the Boardroom but act as company Directors under the Corporations Act, with a duty to act in the best interests of the ASC.

Core Responsibilities

1. Representation

- As a Delegate, represent your Group and its Show Societies by attending the group meetings and the ASC AGM, and by providing feedback, reports, and communication.
- As a Director, attend ASC Board Meetings and actively contribute to discussions and decision-making in the best interests of the ASC.
- Apply for leave of absence if unable to attend meetings.

2. Engagement with Shows

- Attend as many Shows as possible within your Group, representing the ASC and providing advice when requested.
- Delegates provide knowledge and support, with authority resting with the ASC or the Group unless formally delegated.
- Work in partnership with your Co-Delegate to ensure consistent representation.

3. Reporting and Feedback

- Provide written reports to the ASC prior to each Board Meeting on Shows in your Group, noting successes, challenges, and contributing factors.
- Report back to your Group and, where appropriate, to individual Show Societies on ASC matters including:
 - Seminars and training opportunities
 - New or updated ASC policies
 - ASC services (e.g. livestock movement notifications)
 - Notifications of possible horse drug testing at Shows
- Respect confidentiality where matters are designated as such by the Board.

4. Governance and Mediation

- Encourage sound governance at both Group and Show Society level.
- Act, where needed, as a mediator between Show stakeholders, always respecting that Show Societies are autonomous.
- Provide support and guidance through words, deeds, and attitude—never by attempting to dominate.

5. Competitions and Events

- Participate in Group Finals of ASC competitions (e.g. Young Judges, Young Woman Zone Finals) and other ASC activities.
- Where possible, assist with ASC State Finals and related tasks at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

6. Conduct and Representation

- When representing the ASC at Shows or in public, always be mindful of who you represent and conduct yourself in line with the ASC Code of Conduct.
- Demonstrate professionalism, respect, and integrity in all dealings.

Support and Contact

Delegates are supported by the ASC Office. For assistance, please contact:

 ASC Office (Toll Free): 1800 025 387

Additional support can be sought through ASC policies, training opportunities, and mentoring from fellow Directors.