



## **2025 Interbull Business Meeting Minutes**

**The 2025 Interbull Business Meetings were held on 21 and 22 June 2025 in Louisville, Kentucky, USA.**

### **Interbull Business Meeting 1: Saturday 21 June 2025, 11.00 - 12.30**

#### **1. Opening and welcome**

The Interbull Steering Committee Chair, Matthew Shaffer, welcomed all attendees. He asked the Delegates for each country to sign the attendance on the sheet made available for this.

#### **2. Adoption of agenda**

Participants were notified that some of the agenda had changed order compared to what was distributed, but no changes to topics had been made. No items were added to the agenda by the Delegates.

#### **3. Acceptance of the minutes of the 2024 Interbull Business Meetings**

No notifications of amendments were tabled. The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record of the 2024 Interbull Business Meetings.

#### **4. ICAR Update**

ICAR President Daniel Lefebvre provided an overview of ICAR's mission activities and an update on some ongoing initiatives.

Current ICAR membership comprises of 142 members (92 full members and 50 associate members) across 55 countries, and this trend of interest has shown the increase growth over time. These members are part of ICAR groups.

All ICAR guidelines have now been put in a new Wiki to enable easy updates and more interactions keeping everything relevant to Industry: <https://wiki.icar.org>.

Dr Lefebvre gave an overview of ID services and Certification services including milk recording, milk analyses. Standards, including Validation services; there will be a webinar on this in the coming weeks.



There was a survey for service users and stakeholders to strategic review of Interbeef. It was announced that Kim Mathews (AHDB, UK) was recently appointed as the new Interbeef chair.

ICAR are pleased with the second round of the Brian Wickam Young Person Exchange Program and currently have 6 young professionals conducting research projects. Their reports will be presented at the 2026 ICAR meeting.

The 2025 ICAR Conference in India was revisited. Over 130 participants were at the conference, and much was learned about the situation in India. Awards and outstanding contributions were covered including the Outstanding Contribution Award for Tone Roalkvam, relating to her work for the taskforce on sustainability, and the President's Award for Matthew Shaffer, Interbull SC Chair. Matthew was thanked for his contributions to the community, including in ICAR working groups and as Interbull SC Chair. Appreciation of Matthew's leadership and personal qualities were expressed. Matthew is stepping down as Interbull SC Chair and CEO of DataGene and taking a broader role as CEO of Dairy Australia.

Dr Lefebvre notified attendees that the next ICAR annual conference will be in Verona, Italy from 29 May to 4 June 2026. The Interbull Open Meetings will be on 31 and 1 June. The website is [ICAR2026.IT](http://ICAR2026.IT), and will be updated on an ongoing basis.

Matthew thanked Dr Lefebvre for joining the Interbull Business Meeting and for the continued important connection between ICAR and Interbull.

### **5. Interbull SC Chair's Report**

Matthew Shaffer reminded the meeting participants that his role in the Steering Committee and as Steering Committee Chair is coming to an end. He reflected on the past and his role on the Interbull Steering Committee, which began in Chile (2016) and as Steering Committee Chair in Cincinnati (2019).

Matthew reiterated how important the community is and what we get from these meetings. The Steering Committee members were thanked for their contributions.

Matthew reflected on how the Covid-19 pandemic affected the community, but how we moved forward through that difficult time; it is important to remember where we have come from, but also how we move forward.

There were many developments during his Interbull SC period. Such as strategic plans and the annual operating plan. We strengthened governance over a few years, addressing all recommendations received. We are now in the middle of the next strategic plan 2024-2026.



Matthew reviewed the 4 strategic pillars and directed attendees to the new Interbull.org website to view this in full. All Interbull documents can be found in the Resources section of the website. Matthew also pointed to the Executive Summary being issued quarterly now, which was a result of one of the recommendations from the governance review.

Matthew discussed challenges in the community around data access, declining traditional milk recording, and around technology and AI – how does this fit into our business models? What about new technologies on farms? How do we tackle climate change? These are not just challenges, but also an opportunity to work together and navigate the future.

### **6. Interbull Governance**

The Interbull governance structure was reviewed including SC membership, Interbull Staff and the Interbull Technical Committee.

#### **Steering Committee.**

The current list of SC members was shown; 4 vacancies are to be filled:

Gert Pedersen Amand stepped down at the end of 2024; he was thanked - in absence - for his long-standing SC membership representing the Nordic Countries.

Marija Klopčič has come to the end of her term and will not serve another one. She was thanked for all her hard work representing Central and Eastern Europe.

As previously mentioned, Matthew Shaffer is stepping down as representative for the Other Continents (Oceania, Asia and Africa).

Ezequiel Nicolazzi was at the end of his term for the Americas and was re-nominated for another 4-year term.

The Nordics nomination was announced as Carolina Markey, who continues Gert's term for two years.

The nomination for Central and Eastern Europe is Sebastian Mucha for a 4-year term.

The nomination for the Other Continents is Thuy Ngyen, who will serve the remainder of Matthew's term (1 year).



The nominations will be put forward to the ICAR Board for endorsement in their next board meeting.

### **Interbull Technical Committee – Gerben de Jong**

Two members who are stepping down – Iola Croué and Raphael Mrode were thanked for their service. Raphael was noted for his significant length of service and his contributions to the community, both as a wider member of the Interbull Community and as a member of the ITC, and contributions to working groups.

The process of selected new committee members was summarized, and decision on the new members of the Technical Committee was announced.

- Attilio Rossoni from Italy to 2028 (the remainder of Iola Croué's term)
- Ignacio Aguilar from Uruguay to 2029
- Zenting Liu was supported to continue work on the ITC for another term to 2029.

### **7. Interbull Business Funding Models – Brian Van Doormaal**

Brian explained his continued involvement in the Business Funding Models Task Force as its Chair until June 2025.

The task force has made recommendations on all areas of the fee structure review. Brian explained MACE service fees for new traits. The fees for the trait groups are all relative to the country fee for production. This is not changing going forward.

Brian addressed questions raised at meetings in the last 2 years of business meetings on why there is no separate fee for GMACE.

He explained fully the history of the GMACE fee and the benefits for all countries. The BFMTF recommendation was approved by the Steering Committee.

GEBVtest fees – rules and fees around GEBVtest and GMACE have been clarified:

To date, GEBVtest was not obligatory for organizations participating in GMACE, and organizations were paying for GEBVtest each year (even if they did not perform GEBVtest that year).

GEBVtest is now mandatory for organizations participating in GMACE, and they will need to pass GEBVtest every two years.

The GEBV test fee will remain the same, but organizations will only be charged that fee in the year they perform the GEBVtest.

Of course, GEBVtest is also available – and beneficial- for organizations that do not participate in GMACE.



TMACE – first performed in 2019. The history of participation was shown as between 5 and 7 participating countries. The time and resources needed to run TMACE have been reviewed, and Interbull needed to increase the price to cover these costs. Starting October 2025, this will be implemented.

The new fees were shown and explained; these are also available in the Interbull Code of Practice.

TMACE will continue to be offered each year but may not be performed if there is too low participation. Countries need to express their interest to participate by June 30 in the year of the service. If there is not enough interest in a given year, TMACE will not run in that year.

### GenoEx-GDE

The advantages and opportunities of using GenoEx-GDE core service were summarized. GenoEx-GDE is currently used for the delivery of Interbull's genomic evaluation (InterGenomics). It is proposed that the service will be launched, independently from evaluation services, with a fixed annual fee to cover service support and ongoing maintenance of €8 000 per User Group joining the service.

For those who are not part of Interbull Services and the Interbull Community the fee is three times this amount.

Discussion: No further questions were raised regarding the Business Funding Models.

The Chair thanked Brian for his hard work on behalf of the community.

## **8. Interbull Centre Director's Report – Toine Roozen**

Toine Roozen introduced and summarized the activities at the Interbull Centre, with the main objective of the Centre to support the cattle industry with accurate genetic information on bulls of the major breeds for use by importers and exporters, thereby facilitating selection of the best genetics for different countries, environments or breeding goals.

The Interbull Centre is also the European Union Reference Centre for Zootechnics (Bovine Breeding) responsible for the scientific and technical contribution to the harmonization and improvement of the methods of performance testing and genetic evaluation of purebred breeding animals of the bovine species.



The Interbull Centre Staff were introduced, including three new members of staff:

- Gabriel Soares Campos, Genetic Data Analyst.
- Annika Kramer – EURC Coordinator.
- Julius Mugambe – Post Doc, focusing on the “Females in MACE” project.

Key achievements in 2024/25 included:

- Continued high quality delivery of services, including evaluations, validations, datahub services
- Recertification for ISO9001
- A new Interbull website with easier navigation, and information being available within 3 clicks.

Toine then highlighted the priorities for 2025, which are described in the 2025 Annual Operational Plan, and include a continuation of the key achievements as well as further development of current services through Future MACE and Females in MACE, enhancement of PREPdb and enhanced collaboration and support models.

Since the last Interbull Meeting Direct Gestation Length has been included in the MACE service, and the research on two new trait groups (Metabolic Disease (3traits), and Claw Health (6 traits)) has been completed and are now offered as a MACE evaluation.

Through collaboration of the ICAR Conformation WG and WHFF, two new traits (*Udder balance and Front feet orientation*) have been approved as standard conformation traits for dairy breeds, and Interbull is proposing to include these in the MACE evaluations for interested organizations.

The above are examples where Interbull is working on introducing new traits to its portfolio. The audience is reminded that any other traits to be included in Interbull portfolio can be suggested through PREPdb.

### Discussion:

Marco Winters, UK – suggested calf survival as a possible New Trait.

Response: Toine welcomed the suggestion and encouraged all countries to put information in PREPdb so we can see the full range of traits, and the levels of interest.

Brian van Doormaal, Canada - The two new traits on type are not perfectly harmonized. Are you thinking of checking correlations across countries, or would close enough definitions qualify? Could related or similar traits be included.



Response– The two traits have been added to the official trait list by the WHFF. For Holstein populations quite a few countries have started recording one or both of these traits (Gerben de Jong, Netherlands).

There are now specific traits with clear definitions that have been approved. The possibility to allow correlated or similar traits will be reviewed when we have some data.

Brian also asked about ‘promote’ in the business plan, and having a new website. He asked if there is a process for seeking information for improvement?

Toine confirmed that we have taken information from the community to improve the website. Part of the promotion is that the new website is easier to navigate, and that the entry pages focus on non-users. The Interbull Centre Team encourages everyone to give feedback for relevant information to be added to the website [https://interbull.org/ib/new\\_website](https://interbull.org/ib/new_website).

### Finance

Toine summarized the financial situation of the Interbull Centre and how fees are used for the delivery of service and carrying out applied research and development.

The budget was covered, including an explanation of the surplus, which has been used to improve services. The income is slightly less than the previous year, which is partly caused by exchange rate differences.

Toine furthermore explained that the 2025 invoices will be sent out in July or August, based on the new metrics, and sent by SLU’s central accounting system.

Discussion: There were no questions with regards to finances.

## **9. Discussion**

Matthew Schaffer reminded the participants again to fill in or update the PREPdb.

There were no questions or comments.

## **10. Close Business Meeting 1**

**Interbull Business Meeting 2: Sunday 22 June 2025, 13.30 - 15.00**





### **11. Welcome back**

The chair welcomed people back and explained that Business Meeting 1 was a review of past activities, whereas Business Meeting 2 will focus more on what we are doing now and what we are aiming to do. He reminded the attendees that the Strategic Plan is available on the Interbull Website.

### **12. Interbull Technical Committee Update – Gerben de Jong**

Gerben de Jong introduced the members of the Interbull Technical Committee (ITC) and the responsibilities of the ITC referencing the Terms of Reference that can be read on the Interbull Website: The ITC makes recommendations to the Interbull Steering Committee about technical issues related to the services.

Gerben summarized the activities of the ITC's working groups that work on different topics:

The Validation WG is developing a Test-III alternative more suitable with current data structure. It has also prepared recommendations to address the challenges in validation of novel traits.

The Genomic Reliability WG is investigating the applicability of the genomic reliability methodology for small breeds, novel traits and beef on dairy.

The MACE Coding WG has reviewed various areas including codes for the status of bull & types of proofs unchanged since the beginning. Recommendations from this WG have recently been approved by the SC, with a view to implementation in September 2026: New Code definitions for types of proofs, status of bulls and publication rules have been clarified. The Interbull Centre will give Genetic Evaluation Centres more information about how to apply these amendments.

The Future MACE WG is working on new methods to estimate and apply Variance Component estimates on real MACE data and assess the impact on results, with the expectation to share some results in the 2026 Interbull Meeting.

Gerben then summarized the recommendations of the past 12 months which included Fertility Harmonization work, amendments to the Service Schedule that allow more flexibility to use MACE results, and GEBVtest rules.

### **13. Interbull Research & Development Update – Valentina Palucci**

Valentina presented a summary of the activities at the Interbull Centre, which are in addition to the activities already described in the ITC update. All these activities are included in the Annual Operating Plan, which can be found online on the Interbull





Website in the Resources, and have been identified and grouped according to the 4 strategic pillars in the Interbull Strategic Plan (2024-2026).

Females in MACE: following a request from the World Ayrshire Federation to try to find ways to speed up the genetic/genomic improvement of the breed by also considering information (EBVs, pedigree and genotypes) from the females, the SC agreed that the activity would be an important one not only for the Ayrshire (AYR) breed but also for other small populations like Guernsey or small Holstein populations. The matter was also presented and discussed at the ITC where the following three phases were identified:

Phase I - immediate action: access to GenoEx-GDE should be made available to organizations/breeds not currently involved in any genomic evaluations.

AYR organizations could then share their males/females genotypes and by using the current Interbull conversion equations, obtain MACE-like EBVs for their foreign cows. For this activity EBVs were considered to be of most value for these countries having already a genomic evaluation in place.

Phase II - intermediate action, also described in the open meeting by Julius Mugambe's presentation, will aim at modifying the current MACE pipeline to allow for the inclusion of data of females.

Phase III - intermediate action: once MACE EBVs for females could be properly calculated, the inclusion of MACE EBVs, and genotypes, of females could be considered as input to an InterGenomics evaluation.

Phase II and III are considered of value to all participating countries.

For Phase II, a research agreement and a data call has now been released to participating parties, regular updates will be provided to the participating organizations. A total estimated time of 1 year is expected for the project to be completed, i.e. July 2026.

Work is also ongoing to further improve PREPdb: improvements in the query functionality have been made, an electronic form for genomic national evaluations has been finalized and made available on PREPdb with some preliminary information from each country coming from their latest GENO form available at the Centre. Countries are advised to review their respective genomic forms and update all remaining information.

Valentina also reminded the participants to keep updating/filling in the "other traits" form in PREPdb with any information for any new traits the community would like Interbull to start considering for a possible international evaluation.



Pedigree on request: a new type of service has recently been approved by the SC in relation to the request from several organizations to have more frequent access to pedigree of young animals, especially for breeds not yet involved in any genomic evaluation.

The SC approved the proposal from the Centre to provide such pedigree information. The service will commence through a manual interaction between organizations providing the list of animals and ITBC providing the pedigree associated to such list. At a later stage a more automatized approach may be developed where organizations will be able to place the request directly within the IDEA platform and being emailed the results.

Improve GenoEx-GDE: continuous improvements are being developed to increase the user experience. Specifically, feedback is being developed in order for the user to better understand the status of their job submission (processed or queued). Improvements also in relation to the usage of the permission file (file711) are under way in order to include permission information for all requested genotypes, whether they were explicitly shared with other organizations or not.

Valentina also informed the participants that a new version of the GEBVtest software and accommodating information has been recently released and available for download from the Interbull website. The GEBVtest user manual has been updated including a clear description of what options, within the one available in the software, shall be used for performing an official Interbull GEBVtest for inclusion of data in a GMACE evaluation.

### Discussion:

Joao Durr, CDCB – recently went through research runs with new traits in MACE. When it came to countries expressing their interest in participating in official, routine evaluations, only the US and Germany expressed desire. Question to everyone is that we have been asking for these services to be made available, and now we have the opportunity we don't see the interest and engagement when it would benefit us to use it. What does it take to have more people interested?

Response: Valentina Palucci – we have received some feedback for metabolic traits –and the situation is as you have described. For claw health we have interest from at least 3 countries – Switzerland, Germany and possibly GBR. We will check with Czech Republic. We are hoping the results of the test run will result in more interest from other countries. Some countries just need a little more time to work on their recording or their national evaluations.

Carolina Markey (Sweden, Nordic Countries) – for the Nordic Countries we just need more time and a decision is coming.



Brian Van Doormaal (Canada) – we do have records for all these traits but the issue for not participating is a lack of resources. So right now, we would be paying for an activity that we cannot benefit from as we don't have the resources to implement the results. (It is extra work on a project list that wants to happen at some point in time.)

Response: Toine Roozen – We try to do carry out the research as quickly as possible – as requested in last year's Business Meeting. We also do understand that it takes resources to analyze and time to make decisions. On the other hand, the results are available, and we are ready to implement a routine evaluation when there is sufficient interest. Please do let us know if we need to plan even further ahead so you can schedule it better.

Matthew Shaffer (Australia) – It is important to note that Interbull moves as fast as we can to allow you to take advantage of opportunities of these services we have to offer.

### **14. ICAR DNA WG and Interbull DataHub – Katrine Haugaard**

Katrine introduced the members of the DNA Working Group.

The objectives of the DNA WG are to provide a forum for ICAR members to collaborate and exchange information about use of DNA from farm animals, maintain and update guidelines such as Section 4 - DNA technologies of the ICAR Guidelines - , conduct and report results of international surveys related to use of DNA, develop and provide certifications to ensure accurate and comparable use of DNA around the world, and lastly facilitate and co-ordinate international research and development.

Two ICAR certifications are connected to the DNA WG: certification of laboratories for STR and SNP genotyping, and certification for DNA data interpretation centre. Interbull Centre is involved in the latter as the performer of the technical component by sending out the test files, communication with the applicants on the technical details and review of the results. The certification of Parentage Verification has been a service for some years, while certification for Parentage Discovery was launched in March 2024. Currently 18 organizations are certified for parentage verification, while 7 organizations are certified for parentage verification and discovery.

Certification for DNA data interpretation centres is a pre-requisite for participation in the GenoEx-PSE (Parental SNP Exchange). GenoEx-PSE is one of two services in the International Genotype Exchange (GenoEx) platform developed for easy exchange genotypes, and PSE facilitates the exchange of 200 ISAG defined SNPs for parentage verification, and 354 DNA WG defined SNPs for parentage Discovery. To access each of the two groups of SNPs, the organization must be certified for the correct level. Currently 9 organizations are part of the PSE-service with access to the Verification SNPs, while 2 organizations also have gained access to the Discovery SNPs.



The second GenoEx service is GenoEx-GDE (Genomic Data Exchange) which provides the opportunity to exchange full set of arrays for genomic services. GenoEx-GDE is currently used for Interbull's InterGenomics evaluation and will be opened for general sharing of genotypes without connection to international evaluations.

Lastly, Interbull also provides a service for sharing of genetic traits through the IDEA animinfo. The service is currently implemented for HOL and BSW, with 4 and 5 participating organizations respectively. The services can be expanded to other breeds upon expression of interest.

Discussion: There were no questions regarding this presentation

### **15. ICAR Feed & Gas WG – Rasmus Bak Stephensen**

Rasmus introduced the work of the ICAR Feed and Gas Working Group.

The Working Group is comprised of 11 members. The core objectives of the working group were presented as a forum to exchange knowledge, maintain and update guidelines for recording, webinars and workshops, etc.

Recent Webinars and workshops were shown and can be accessed from the ICAR website.

The Feed & Gas working groups guideline information has moved to the new ICAR wiki page, which makes it more flexible to update information of e.g., measurement methods, activities, definitions. Discussions and providing feedback are highly appreciated, and everyone was encouraged to start a discussion by clicking on the 'discussion' logo in the wiki page.

The Brian Wickham Young Person Exchange Program has this year granted four persons; Sarah-Joe Burn on Feed intake SOP, Fazel Almasi on tech comparison of methane equipment's, Maria Frizzarin on ExtraMIR and methane, Michael Aldridge on methane emissions in sheep.

Discussion: There were no questions or comments on this presentation.

### **16. ICAR Interbeef WG – Fernando Macedo**

The Interbeef WG was introduced.

Fernando presented an update on the recent Interbeef WG activities and objectives.

Kim Matthews from the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB, UK) was appointed as Chair of the ICAR Interbeef WG by the ICAR board in May 2025.



Kim is a specialist in meat and carcass quality and a very active member of Interbeef WG.

The main objective of Interbeef WG is developing and promoting national and international genetic and genomic evaluations of beef cattle. However, the work of Interbeef covers a wider range of activities related to standardization and guidelines for animal identification, recording and evaluation, combining data via the Interbull Centre IDEA database to be used in international evaluations to deliver specific countries' results, development of evaluation methods, and also plays an important role in exchange of information and experience among the participants.

In January 2025 representatives of the ICAR board, organizations participating in Interbeef, a group of researchers from Wageningen University with experience in beef evaluations and members of Interbull Centre met in Amsterdam. The aim of the meeting was to draft a Interbeef strategic roadmap. The plan was shaped based on the results of an ICAR survey that was distributed to stakeholders related to beef industry and genetic centers at the end of 2024.

Five strategic goals were identified by the group:

- Improving existing services
- Expanding new services
- Improving data exchange
- Strengthening networks
- Refining governance

A Strategic Roadmap with short and long term goals was designed covering:

- Genetic evaluations: allow the integration of international EBVs into national evaluations by the end of 2025. Increase the number of breeds and traits in the coming years.
- Genomic evaluations: Single-breed genomic evaluations to be launched in 2026. Multi-country, multi-breed, multi-trait genomic evaluations and beef on dairy international evaluations by 2030.
- Data sharing: starting by sharing genotypes via GenoEx-GDE in 2025; and pedigree, phenotypes and genetic traits in the coming years.
- M3GE project: leaded by Wageningen University, the project aims to develop a multi-country, multi-breed, multi-trait genomic evaluation. The outcomes of this project are based on the development of the genomic evaluations.

Discussion: There were no questions or comments from the participants on this presentation.

## 17. Other Matters and Open Discussion



The Chair asked the participants for any areas of discussion.

Toine Roozen (Interbull Centre): We now have 4 participants for TMACE – we need one more for us to run TMACE this year.

On Joao Durr's (USA) comment – what is a realistic expectation from both sides. What is the best way to plan and roll-out a new service?

Marco Winters (UK) – we were very keen on Lameness and pushed Interbull to do this, but when it came to it, we had other priorities. Maybe we need more commitment from countries – maybe an upfront fee to get started so we commit more rather than nothing happens.

Joao Durr (USA) – I think I may have expressed this already, but the moment that we live is different than what it was 30 years ago when we had Interbull evaluations as the way to enter new markets etc. This has changed with genomics. What is important for this community is that we get endorsed by an independent, international genetic evaluation centre. They provide another pair of eyes looking at our results. That is something we need to remind ourselves. This is very valuable. It is not all about data and results, but exchange of ideas and networking. New traits is the same thing. We want the endorsement of the international community on our national evaluations. We need to value that we are participating. We need to keep adding the new traits we are adding nationally into the services for the International community. We don't call it certification, but essentially Interbull is certifying us and our evaluations, which provides us with more credibility.

Ezequiel Nicolazzi (USA) – I was part of the New Traits Pipeline working group. During the discussion we did not discuss timing and implementation. We did a lot of the work, but we wanted to facilitate things as fast as possible because we understood from the group that they wanted us to implement things faster. The Business Meeting and the SC asked the Interbull staff to go faster. We all need to communicate better or perhaps a step before the decision making process to ask countries how much time they need to make a decision, for example. We all have to deal with these things internally. It is a communication situation. This is definitely the case. We need to give credit to the Interbull Staff that they were on top of the change, and we just need more time. Interbull Centre has limited resources as well – so we need to ask this question in the process for how much time countries need.

Brian van Doormaal (Canada)- I was chairing the BMFTF as a member of the SC and we were thinking about the revenue stream at the Centre and making sure we are setting fees to cover costs. Now I am on the other side as a recipient of this. For me right now if I look at the new trait groups at 15% and 10% adding 25% to my production and I will get a couple of traits out of it, it seems expensive and I am not sure whether I am getting the value back. Maybe I cannot put requests to the SC. We are always trying to cover costs, but there is an investment to develop these services. Maybe we should offer a test cost or lower costs to have more





contributions. We have to be careful about the fee structure. Right now we have added fees and it continues to increase on our side – the little things we are adding have less value in terms of the cost-benefit. That is an issue from a business perspective. I agree we need to do it, but it is not so easy to assess the benefit.

Urs Schnyder (Switzerland) – I think that the cost that was put up there is reasonable compared to the workload to Interbull. We should compare the small cost for Interbull with the huge cost at home to put this in place. We now have the last little step to get it together. It seems reasonable to me.

Matthew Shaffer (Australia) asked for discussion around the content for future Interbull meetings: we currently focusing on scientific/genetic issues. The group the chair represents wondered about introducing a component with business or IT focused presentations or sessions at these annual meetings.

### **18. Future Events**

Matthew reviewed previous meetings and reminded the participants that in 2026 Interbull will collaborate with ICAR (Verona, Italy), and we are hoping to have a joint session with EAAP (Hamburg, Germany).

### **19. Close**

The chair gave thanks to the Interbull Centre team.

Urs Schnyder, Vice-Chair of the Interbull SC, informed the attendees that a new SC Chair will be elected in the SC meeting on Tuesday and thanked Matthew for his great contribution over the years. The group thanked Matthew with a standing ovation.