



Carlie Barry

**GROUP A MEMBER NOMINATED CANDIDATE
– MILK PRODUCER SKILLS**

Bio

Carlie Barry is a dairy farmer from South West Victoria. Over the last 10 years, Carlie and her husband Owen have built their business from the ground up, from lower order sharefarming 200 cows to 50:50 sharefarming, to leasing and farm ownership. She has leased a second dairy farm since 2016 and at peak milks 600 cows, with one farm in conventional production and the other in organic conversion. Carlie developed a deep understanding of the many variations in dairy businesses within the industry when employed by Fonterra, where she looked after 130 farms. She also provided HR support for the entire South West region of Victoria utilising her degree in human resources (specialising in dairy). Carlie was the State President of the Victorian Young Farmers, a member of the Warrnambool Cheese and Butter Supplier Advisory Forum and is a graduate of the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program.

Candidate Statement

I am offering myself for election because I believe it is essential that people with new ideas and perspectives are party to the decisions being considered in industry structure as well as on how Dairy Australia can have a much larger impact on improving farmer profitability. This is especially important currently with the dairy industry suffering from long-term reductions in profitability and production in almost all states. I am also driven by the desire to help positively change the perception of the industry as well as developing more successful pathways for young people to move from their first job to farm ownership. I would be a voice for all farmers, though especially for the 'grass roots' farmers and younger farmers starting out in the industry who in my view have not had a strong enough advocate for them in the past.

My role as an Area Manager with Fonterra allowed me to build strong relationships with a large group of farmers with a wide range of production systems and a diverse range of personal aspirations. I found it rewarding to advocate on their behalf with Fonterra and it would be an honour to have the opportunity to do this on behalf of all farmers on the Dairy Australia Board. I am passionate about the need to develop a profitable and sustainable dairy industry, and I believe my own experience with progression in the industry and my background in HR would ensure I could significantly contribute to the Dairy Australia board.