



Fun, Learning and
Achievement

Status Final
June.2018
Double Area
Eliminator

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS

Competition Programme 2018-19

NFYFC Machine Sheep Shearing

In accordance with BISCA

RULES

Competition Aim

To provide an opportunity for members to demonstrate the acquired skill in shearing sheep.

Learning outcomes

How to plan and use practical skills in handling sheep, shearing equipment and to demonstrate animal husbandry.

REMINDER: Read in conjunction with **NFYFC General Rules**. Further information can be found at <http://www.nfyfc.org.uk/CompetitionsResources/competitionsresources>

1. DATE & VENUE

- 1.1. After Area Finals, the National Final will be held at the Great Yorkshire Show 2019 on Thursday 11th July 2019.
- 1.2. **CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES IS MONDAY 1st JULY, 2019 – Subject to confirmation by GYAS**

2. REPRESENTATION

- 2.1. Counties may enter two competitors per 600 members or part thereof in Area Finals.
- 2.2. Areas will have double entry and be represented by **two** competitors per 3,000 members or part thereof in the National Final. (Northern Area 4, Eastern Area 2 and East Midlands 2, West Midlands Area 1, South West Area 4, South East Area 2 and Wales 4)

3. ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. The individual competitor must be 26 years of age or under on 1 September 2017, and full members of a Club affiliated to the NFYFC.
- 3.2. The minimum qualification for competitors is a British Wool "Blue Seal". Copies of qualifications to be inspected on the day of the competition prior to shearing.

4. SUBSTITUTION

- 4.1. If one or more of the individuals are unable to go forward to subsequent rounds, then the next highest placed team will represent the Area.
- 4.2. **All substitutes must have been eligible to compete in the County Final.**

5. PROCEDURE

- 5.1. Refer to the latest British Isles Shearing Competition Association (BISCA) rules which are available from NFYFC. BISCA rules as of February 2018 are attached below.
- 5.2. Competitors must wear suitable clothing and footwear.
- 5.3. The minimum number of sheep to be shorn in the NFYFC Finals and the maximum number of sheep to be shorn in finals shall be as follows:

| Age Category | Heats | Semi-Finals | Finals |
|--------------|-------|-------------|-----------------|
| Under 26 | 3 | 4 | Between 5 and 8 |

- 5.4. Competitors will be required to assist in sorting sheep and wrapping wool for other competitors. Any remaining unshorn sheep from the competition must be sheared prior to competitors leaving.

6. AWARDS

- 6.1. NFYFC Award and Prize Cards to the winning team.
- 6.2. NFYFC Prize Cards to teams placed 2nd and 3rd.
- 6.3. NFYFC Certificate of Achievement will be awarded to all members of teams in the NFYFC final.

World International Rules

- h. An authorized holder is permitted in the catching pen. This person may not tip or lift the sheep for the competitor or switch the machine on or off. No unauthorized persons are permitted in the catching pen and no officials are allowed to assist a competitor in anyway, except where safety is a concern.
 - (i) See 2.g (ii) and 7.c.)
- i. Competitors must wait on the board and may place hand/s on the closed door/s await the word 'GO' from the Starter.
 - # On completion of their event, all competitors will remain on their stand until the last competitor has finished, unless:
 - (i) They need to seek urgent medical attention.
 - (ii) They have been granted permission to leave the board by the referee prior to the commencement of such heat or final.



| Competition | Heats | Semi-Finals | Finals |
|--------------|-------|-------------|--------|
| Junior | 3 | 3 | 4/5 |
| Intermediate | 4 | 4 | 5/8 |
| Senior | 4 | 5 | 7/12 |
| Open | 5 | 8 | 15/20 |

- k. Competitors may not present their own sheep for the Pen Judges, but may be required to present from the next heat. Failure to do so when required will result in a penalty of one whole point from the Pen Referee.
 - L. Competitor's points for any titles such as BISCA Shearer of the Year or any circuit event where points are accumulated will not be taken from societies not affiliated to BISCA.

Rules

- m. #Visiting overseas competitors must compete in the same grade that is stipulated by their own country, in the case of 'Woolhanding competitions this will be at the discretion of the Woolhanding Referee, they cannot compete in a lower grade.
 - # Competitors regardless of age cannot go back in class.
- n. **Sheep:**
 - # Sheep chosen must be carefully selected for evenness of type and size to provide a fair competition.
 - Preparation of competition sheep must be kept to a minimum with uniform standard to ensure the safety of pizzles, teats and vulva.
- o. **Timing:**
 - # A competition will provide a separate timekeeper with a stopwatch or an approved self-timing device for each competitor. Back up stop watch timing is recommended for self-timing devices.
 - Each competitor's time will be taken from the Starter's 'GO' until.....
 - (i) Machine shears have completed their final sheep and switched off their hand-piece in the case of manual timing or the 'Stop' button is pushed in the case of electronic timing.
 - (ii) Blade shears have completed their final sheep and put their shears down in the case of manual timing. Or the 'Stop' button is pushed in the case of electronic timing.
- p. **Referees:**
 - A Chief Referee will be appointed for each competition who will be responsible for the administration and control of the competition strictly according to these International Rules, and any additional rules approved by World Council. The Chief Referee's ruling on any matter not covered by the above will be final.
 - # Any person may seek clarification on any point from the referee. The referee may rule on the matter raised or refer it to the Disputes Committee.
 - The referee must be called and decide any whole point penalty as in 2. k, 7. k & 1 and 9. b & c.
 - Before the start of the competition the Chief Referee will announce whether 'socks' are to be taken off or left on, clarify where crutching starts and finishes, and signify any penalty to be applied accordingly (See 9. a (iv)).
 - # Where the outside referee is called upon in International Tests and BISCA Team selection, the final decision will be made in consultation with the Chief Referee.
- q. **Board Judges:**
 - The board judges will judge for:
 - (i) Second cutting of the wool
 - (ii) Breaking of fleece
 - (iii) Work before or after time
 - (iv) Skin attached to wool on Merino sheep
 - (v) Other penalties as per rule 7
 - Board Judge's must start on the same stand of a particular event.
 - Board Judge's must rotate so that all competitors receive equal scrutiny.
 - Board Judge's rotation must continue until last sheep is finished.
 - Board Judge's using counters must, at completion of last sheep of each heat or final, record every competitor's penalty strokes on card provided.

World International Rules

- f. If a competitor receives an injury causing serious bleeding, the Board Judge will stop the competitor if he believes it is in the best interest of the competitor or the competition to do so.
 7. **Board Penalties:**
 - a. Second cuts – one credit card in size. (85 x 55 x 10mm) equals five penalty strokes.
 - b. One penalty stroke – (85 x 11 x 10mm).
 - c. One penalty stroke for not breaking the neck wool on full wool fleeces.
 - d. One whole point per offence if pen handler lifts sheep to assist catch. (See 2. g. To be imposed by the Board Referee in consultation with the Judge/s.)
 - e. One penalty stroke per side for obvious belly wool or brisket rib not removed when shearing belly or for obvious fleece wool removed with belly.
 - f. Merino skin pieces – One penalty stroke per 5mm diameter in size or an equivalent accumulation of smaller errors.
 - g. One penalty stroke for not throwing belly wool clear.
 - h. One penalty stroke for wool thrown interfering with another competitor.
 - i. Two penalty strokes for first hind leg wool broken out deliberately by competitor on full wool sheep.
 - j. Three penalty strokes for using handpiece or blades to cut open neck wool unless a ruling allowing this is made by the Chief Referee.
 - k. Five penalty strokes if a shorn sheep on release breaks up fleece or carries fleece wool out porthole.
 - l. Two whole points for allowing a shorn or partly shorn sheep to escape. The shearer must make a genuine effort to pen the sheep. Does not apply if sheep is properly
- m. penna and returns to shearing board. One whole point per offence for work before or after time by competitor or pen handler (and during by pen handler) for plucking, removing tassels etc. (See 2. e).
 - n. To be imposed by the Board Referee in consultation with Judge/s.
 - o. Five whole points be imposed for rough handling of sheep per offence. Judge and Board Referee's decision in consultation. The Board Referee is to advise scorers of any whole point penalty under 7.c. k, l + m.
 8. **The Pen Judges:**
 - a. Single judging system to be used if possible, number of Judges used should divide equally into number of sheep shorn. The Pen Judge will judge sheep for:
 - (i) Wool left on
 - (ii) Cuts on Sheep
 - b. The Pen Judge must call the referee to decide penalty for 9. b & c, then judge the rest of the sheep.
 9. **Pen Penalties:**
 - a. (i) Wool left on sheep – one credit card in size (85 x 55 x 10mm) – five penalty strokes.
 - (ii) Skin Cuts – one penalty stroke per 15mm diameter in size, or an equivalent accumulation of smaller errors.
 - (iii) A cut into flesh or muscle (not serious enough to be a full penalty of five whole points) will incur a minimum of five penalty strokes plus the cut.
 - (iv) Up to two penalty strokes per individual sock left on or up to four penalty strokes if very woolly, as decided by committee and Chief Referee. (See 5. d.)

Blade Shearing Rules

Blade Shearing

World International Rules apply, with the following amendments for all blade competitions.

The minimum number of sheep to be shorn in each stage of competition and the maximum number of sheep to be shorn in finals shall be as follows:

| Competition | Heats | Semi-Finals | Finals |
|-------------|-------|-------------|--------|
| Novice | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Open | 2 | 3 | 5-7 |

- Competitors will be allowed to take two sets of blades onto the boards, which must be placed in the holder provided.
- Blades must be placed in the holder between each sheep (2 whole points per offence where this is not applied).
- As per machine or when Blades are placed in the holder after shearing their last sheep.
- Shorn sheep are judged on the basis of even finish of 0 to 15mm.

precedence.