



## Competitions Steering Group Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2015, Quality Hotel, Coventry

**Chairman:** Mark Curr

**Vice-chairman:** Matt Tomkins (part) Oonagh O'Neill (part)

**Present:** Faith Cosgrove (FC) (co-option); Mark Curr (MC) (NA); Sam Allen (SA) (SEA); Greig Farmer (GF) (EMA); Oonagh O'Neill (OO) (EA); Claire Worden (CW) (co-option); Lisa Hawkins LH (co-option); Laura Elliott (LE) (Wales); Claire Bellew (CB) (observer); Competitions Steering Group (CSG);

**Part Meeting:**

Hannah Talbot (HT) (NFYFC Chair); Chris Manley (CM) (NFYFC Vice Chair); Natalie Moore (NM) (part); Jess Townson (JT) (NFYFC Vice Chair); James Eckley (JCE) (NFYFC Chief Officer); Christina Evans (CE) (NFYFC Fundraising Officer); Fay Thomas (FT) (Herefordshire); Jess Wright (JW) (Herefordshire);

**In attendance:**

Margaret Bennett (MB) (NFYFC Competitions Officer)

### 1. Opening Remarks

- 1.1. Mark Curr (MC) welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked them to sign the record of attendance. MC asked all members of the committee to introduce themselves and passed around a card for Gill Harrison Competitions Officer who had recently had a baby boy for the committee to sign.

### 2. Apologies

- 2.1. Andrew Smith (AS) (EMA); Phil Debenhams (PD) (EA); Georgina Monk (GM) (SWA); Ariel Jones (AJ) (WA); Laura Elliott (LE) (WA); Charlie Polak (CP) (SE); Charlotte Harris (CH) (SWA); Georgina Monk (GM) (SWA); Ariel Jones (AJ) (Wales); Matt Tomkins (MT) (WMA); Rhys Jones (RJ) (WMA); David Hamer (DH) (Ex-officio);

### 3. Confirmation of minutes (22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2015 )

- 3.1. The Minutes of the previous Competitions Steering Group (CSG) meeting, held on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2015 had been circulated; these were signed by MC as a true and correct record. Proposed by Sam Allen (SA) and Seconded by Jess Townson (JT)

### 4. Matters arising from those Steering Group minutes

- 4.1. Position of Vice Chairman – Since the last meeting and a subsequent email to the CSG, MT wished to stand down as Vice Chairman to the Committee due to work commitments. An election then took place - JT proposed OO and it was seconded by SA. There were no further nominations and OO was elected.
- 4.2. Senior Stockman Project Management Report – a paper had been circulated prior to the meeting with regard to the Stockman of the Year project and changes to be made. The Committee agreed to the changes and this would be used for the 2015 competition. This would also include EBV's as agreed at the last meeting.
- 4.3. Sponsorship Update – Christina Evans Fundraising Officer joined the meeting:-
  - 4.3.1. Clothing for YFC Teams – incentive for Steering Committee – comments received that it was more expensive than local suppliers from £16 to around £22 per top. However, it was noted that a different quality could be looked at for future.
  - 4.3.2. CE informed the Committee that she is trying to secure sponsorship for the Competitions Programme. This will be decided upon in the next few weeks.
  - 4.3.3. Cogent possibility of sponsorship MC to look into further.
  - 4.3.4. OO had also a contact and she would report back to the next meeting.
- 4.4. Terms of Reference – Each steering group had been asked to check the Terms of Reference that had been circulated to Committee Members; it was agreed that no changes would be made.
- 4.5. Competitions Steering Committee Budget/Finances – MB circulated a paper giving the actual costs for 2014, budgeted costs for 2015 and budget costs for 2016. MB had been working with Jim Minshaw (NFYFC Accounts Manager) to look at the cost. For anyone wishing to look at the breakdown for 2014 copies were available. To note that the budget for 2015 was previously given at -£22,330.00 up until June; it was now showing a figure of – £19,115.63. This reduction was due to the Sponsorship from Massey Ferguson of £2,500 and prize card Sponsorship of £300 which had been received. Since 2014 the budget sheet had now been broken down more,

splitting up competitions to be more realistic - it showed this for 2015 and 2016. MB Explained to the meeting that it was difficult to split down the costs per competition as in most cases there were overall costs that needed to be split between each competition. The Estimated budget for 2015 is -£19,115.53 and the budget for 2016 is -£16,397.00. All efforts were being made to cut costs wherever possible. Stewards are now receiving emails with information instead of posting, and as a trial the Cross Country Competitor Notes out to members direct using emails. However, reps are to go back to members and ensure that if members change their details, especially email, they must inform the county office so that this can be amended. FC asked whether it would be possible to allow members to amend their details on the website; this was to be looked into. Local Judges and Stewards were being sourced to ensure costs were kept to a minimum, but we need to ensure that the standard and quality was kept. The Committee was asked to support the Chairman at the Council Meeting, to justify the Competitions Programme. It costs approximately 80p per member to run the competitions programme and it was noted that the experience it gave through taking part was priceless. If it was necessary to cut costs further it would mean doing fewer competitions on the NFYFC Programme. MC asked the committee to ensure that all counties completed the County Monitoring Form. It was suggested by FC that this should be sent out to Area Secretaries to fill in, to see what the drop-out rate is. Discussion with regard to budget would be put on the next Agenda to discuss further.

- 4.6. English Winter Fair Committee – Representation – at the last meeting Lisa Hawkins was elected to stand. However, due to work commitments Lisa would not be able to attend the meetings in the day time. Matt Tomkins was asked to stand in for Lisa but since the last meeting the Committee had been revamped and it was suggested that David Hamer continues to represent NFYFC on the Committee.
- 4.7. Sponsorship on White Stock judging Coats – at the last Council meeting it was discussed and the point had been passed back to (CSG) for further discussion. It was agreed by the Committee that the rules should be changed – on the following rules – Dairy Stock judging, Stockman of the Year, Young Stock judge; Live & Carcase, Floral Art and Cookery to the words - . It was agreed that White stock-judging coats bearing club/county/sponsor logos are now permitted and judges are to be advised of this change. This will be added to the judging rules.
- 4.8. National Society of Ploughman – MB had spoken to the Society asking what and how NFYFC would be able to support the Society and she was waiting a response. An email would be sent to SGC members with locations of qualifying rounds.
- 4.9. Tug of War 2014 – Decision from council followed by Arbitration - JCE explained that the Arbitration panel met on the 8<sup>th</sup> June and a document had been circulated on the 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2015. There were several points from the paper circulated that needed to be actioned by the Committee:- the comments from the panel committee are outlined in red under each of the points below:
  - 4.9.1. **Outcome of claim for relief:-**
    - 4.9.1.1. The panel has *sympathy for the team*, but it is not appropriate to lift the ban from the 2015 competition.
  - 4.9.2. **Recommendations for ACTION from the panel:-**
    - 4.9.2.1. All references to cheating to be removed from publication (website story) and an apology to be given to the team from the NFYFC for publication of same before the team were aware of the situation.  
**NOTE: - Written apologies sent to every member concerned and news stories removed & deleted from website on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015.**
    - 4.9.2.2. Strong allegations made by the ToW Team about the abuse of Rule 5 of the General Competitions Rules in several County Federations.
    - 4.9.2.3. These MUST BE investigated by the County Federations, Area Committees and the NFYFC Competitions Steering Group & Council. The team will support these investigations. **In order to do this, County Federations and especially YFC Areas/Wales, must keep in hard copy, the entry forms (who was entered) AND the sign sheets of who actually picked up the rope on the day of the County Area/Wales competition – this also allows the substitution rule to be monitored. Paper based information is required if and when allegations are made and if and when an investigation is carried out.**  
**The Competitions Project Group (see below) will draft a guidance note on this topic for County Federations and Areas/Wales and will also investigate how the SILO database may be used to assist monitoring as entries are received.**
    - 4.9.2.4. **For the sake of consistency and fairness, ALL County Federations and Area Committees MUST *accept, apply and enforce* Rule 5 of the General Competitions Rules for *ALL competitions in the NFYFC annual Competitions programme* (Rule 5 must always be applied at every level).**

4.9.2.5. Rule 5 of the General Rules to be redefined using the '**compete**' (instead of or with the word 'represent'). Consideration should be given to including the word 'compete' in the Club Constitution (Rule 6 of the Club Constitution) as well.

**The Competitions Project Group (see below) will be working on an initial recommendation for members who hold more than one membership and what changes the NFYFC should put in place. This point in fact really concerns the mobility of membership – members of YFC do not require a second membership card to participate in Club and County events away from the 'home club'. Members should represent just one YFC Club and thus one county federation in the competitions programme each year.**

**The Competitions Steering will be sending a clear message that competing for one club in once county is the only acceptable way to participate in the NFYFC competitions programme.**

4.9.2.6. **The Competitions Project Group (see below) will prepare new text for Rule 5.**

4.9.3. **Review of the communications procedures under similar circumstances. To include:-**

4.9.3.1. That annually the NFYFC Competitions Steering Group establishes an **Independent Appeals Panel**, to comprise of at least 6 people, not part of the Competitions Steering Group or of NFYFC Council, to deal with similar situations of appeal/dispute within a defined timeframe. That panel is to have the right to invite members of either/any party involved in an appeal/dispute to a meeting. At such a meeting both the panel and the other party/parties may ask the panel questions or present comments and observations to the panel.

4.9.3.2. **The Competitions Steering Group will be establishing an Appeals Panel comprising of approx 10 names. The Competitions Project group will be preparing a written Appeals Process which can be followed.**

4.9.4. **Competitions Project Group.** *Following a discussion regarding the Tug of War Arbitration Panel recommendations, it was agreed the*

4.9.5. *CGS will established Competitions Project Group. The Comps Project Group will comprise: MC, OO, Jess Wright, James Sage and CW.*

4.9.5.1. *The Competitions Project Group must feedback to the CSG and the recommendation will come from the CSG to Council at the October meeting for immediate implementation.*

4.9.5.2. *The Competitions Project Group is tasked with:-*

4.9.5.2.1. *Producing an Operational Guide concerning Rule 5 of the General Rules for County Federations and Area Committees/Wales and if possible Create an info-graphic and support guide.*

4.9.5.2.2. *A Re-write of Rule 5 of the General Rules – include the word 'compete'.*

4.9.5.2.3. *Review and recommend a communications procedure in the case of appeal against a competitions decision.*

4.9.5.2.4. *Consider 'mobility of membership' and make initial recommendation to a workable solution.*

4.9.5.3. *The deadline for the guide and re-written rule is the end of August 2015, at which point the Project Group will consult with members of the CSG.*

4.9.5.4. *James Eckley (JCE) will prepare a draft paper for the Appeals Process for the Comps Project Group to develop and to be agreed. Chris Lloyd (CL) will agree to scrutinise the process to be sure it fits with the constitution and competitions rules.*

4.9.6. **Other comments made:**

4.9.6.1. *Possible tick box on the membership form to say if a member had joined more than 1 county.*

4.9.6.2. *To look into the option of having a primary card as their main card and a secondary card in a different colour for just social events. If members wished to join two County Federations.*

4.9.6.3. *A Flow chart to be prepared to show what a member can and can't do and where and when cards can be used.*

4.9.6.4. *Competitors to be monitored as soon as they leave the County and compete at an Area level.*

4.9.6.5. *Clarification needs to be made is this only for the NFYFC Competitions Programme or other competitions.*

4.9.6.6. *Look closely at the General Rules especially the part of the appeal process.*

4.9.6.7. *Membership cards and representing more than one county*

4.9.7. **It was agreed to photograph the teams in the Tug of War competition for 2015.**

5. Rules Bank – to note that past rules are on the website that can be downloaded.

## 5.1. **ACTION POINTS**

- 5.1.1. **Vice Chairman – Oonagh O’Neill name to be updated on all necessary paperwork – MB**
- 5.1.2. **Stockman of the Year Project – to be used for the 2015 Event – MB**
- 5.1.3. **Sponsorship for the Committee – to keep CSG updated CE, MC, OO and MB**
- 5.1.4. **YFC Clothing – alternative material to be looked into – MB**
- 5.1.5. **Terms Reference – Agreement made by the Committee – MB/JCE**
- 5.1.6. **Budget to be put on the Agenda for future – MB/MC**
- 5.1.7. **David Hamer to represent the Committee on the EWF Committee – MB**
- 5.1.8. **Sponsorship on White Coats – rules to be changed on stock judging, cookery and floral art - MB**
- 5.1.9. **Tug of War – Competitions Project Group to look at the general rule, appeal process and mobility of memberships - MB**
- 5.1.10. **Establish an Appeals Panel – members to be written to – MB**
- 5.1.11. **Photographs to be taken of all competitors at the Tug of War Final – MB**

## 6. To receive relevant correspondence

- 6.1. After Dinner Speaking - An email received from Mary Bailey and James Hollingsworth – who had judged at West Midlands Area – they felt that the rules were confusing and teams had not followed the correct process in the competition. They had sent through a suggested set of rules to be looked at which had been circulated to various people to check. Another judge Helen Gould had also commented. There were a few amendments to be made to James and Mary’s original document. It was agreed that MB would go back to them both and ask them to incorporate Helen’s comments. It was also felt that we should have two documents; i.e. the rules and take out the other information and put into a ‘How to Do’ document to help competitors. It was also noted that the After Dinner Speaking, Brains trust and Junior Public Speaking would be filmed at Competitions Day which could be used as a video clip. CW also noted that she had guidelines that could be incorporated into the new documents.
- 6.2. Entry Forms – Northern Area – as discussed previously, Counties must send in their entry forms for the National Competitions to the Area Competition Secretary, and they then send through the forms to NFYFC. The forms should be signed on the day of the Area competition by those taking part so that teams can be monitored as to who has taken part and the substitution rule can be monitored.
- 6.3. Fines for teams or individuals withdrawing from competition - at present only certain competitions are being fined. In light of the Competitions budget it would be taken to council to approve that ‘All’ competitions are eligible for a fine as previous i.e. within 2 weeks of the national final £25.00, and within 48 hours cost would be £40.00. This would be called an administrative fee and not a fine. Proposed by FC and seconded by OO.
- 6.4. 2015-2016 Rules published early – comments had been received that this had been really useful to Counties for preparing booklets ready for the 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015. It was agreed that a deadline of the 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2015 would be required if any amendments were to be made. Counties would be circulated with any amendments 2 weeks prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015. It was noted that the CSG retain the right to change the rules under exceptional circumstances throughout the year if necessary.
- 6.5. **Action**
  - 6.5.1. **After Dinner Speaking rules to be amended then circulated to the Committee – MB**
  - 6.5.2. **Monitor Entry Forms at Area level – MB and Counties**
  - 6.5.3. **Fines to be changed by in the General Rules to Administrative Charge for ‘All’ Competitions**

## 7. Competitions Since the last meeting

- 7.1. **Northern Speaking Regional Finals – to receive comments Tuck Shop needed to stay open longer.**
  - 7.1.1. North – Redford – Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2015
  - 7.1.2. Public Speaking Under 16
  - 7.1.3. Brains trust Under 21
  - 7.1.4. After Dinner Speaking Under 26
  - 7.1.5. South – Weston Super Mare – Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2015 – there was a serious accident on the motorway which meant competitors and stewards were delayed. In future several stewards will be sent information so that the competition could commence.
  - 7.1.6. Public Speaking Under 16
  - 7.1.7. Brainstrust Under 21 – Hampshire withdrew on the Friday evening prior to the Competition
  - 7.1.8. After Dinner Speaking Under 26

## 7.2. Pantomime Regional Finals

7.2.1. North – Retford – Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015

7.2.2. South – Weston Super Mare – Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015 – Orchestra Pit to be closed in future – Feedback from Catherine Look and Claire Worden – need to ensure that all competitors report for the technical rehearsal as one team’s junior members came at 4.00 p.m. and the afternoon competition had to be halted so that they could receive a briefing. When we are Weston again we need to ensure we pay for additional technical person to help. It was also noted that WMA need to be advised that it would help if they ran their competition as per the Northern and Southern Finals i.e. having the technical rehearsal on the same day as the performance so that teams knew what to expect at the next round. Thanks must go to all the Stewards on the day as it was very difficult and a long day.

7.2.3. Tickets for Performing Arts Competition – not to be sold in advance but purchased on the day for the North and South Regional Finals – to save printing costs, and postage this was agreed. Tickets would still be printed for the National Final.

## 7.3. Annual Convention

7.3.1. Pantomime - NODA Judges – Reduce Performance to 1hr instead of 75 mins – Massey Ferguson Sponsorship. Overall Trophies – Dan Nixon Trophy:

7.3.2. Reducing the Performance of the Pantomime competition – It had been suggested that the time limit should be reduced to 1 hour for the performance instead of 75 minutes. A discussion took place and there was mixed feeling regarding this. Wales and at present use 1 hour and then the winning team adds in material to cover the additional time. South West Area and the Northern Area wish to keep the timing the same – it was noted that if 1 hour was used then over the day it would save time and additional hours. A vote was taken the results were 2 for the 1 hour; 3 against and 4 abstentions. It was agreed therefore to leave the time as 75 minutes.

7.3.3. Bedfordshire hold the competition and they have broken down the marks and award marks for technical ability. OO to send through their marking system to see if this can be incorporated into the wording.

7.3.4. The trophies that were awarded by Massey Ferguson at the North, South and Finals are to be kept by the winning teams. Whitley Chapel and Dan Nixon (the winners of this year’s Pantomime Competition) would like to donate an Overall Trophy to be presented each. We have asked Massey Ferguson, who have agreed that if they sponsor the competition in 2016 then this would be in order. They would give mementos to the Northern, Southern and Final winning teams which the teams would keep. The committee agreed to this. Also Whitley Chapel have asked if they could have the old Muller Wiseman Trophy. It was felt by the Committee that this would set a precedent and it was felt that if we gave the trophy to One County this would be unfair to other Counties that have their names on them. It was also noted that there would now be several trophies that have been used for the performing arts competition then the old trophies would be put on display at the finals. After the meeting a suggestion was made that perhaps we could put a list of past winners in the programme.

7.3.5. To note that we only had 2 NODA judges as we have to go through them as an organisation and they could only supply 2 for the day of the competition due to having to provide members at previous rounds to judge. It was noted that it would be ideal to have 3 Judges and if this happened again in the future then NODA are willing to work with others outside of the organisation.

7.3.6. Senior Member of the Year – we have been asked if the results can be given before the results of the Performing Arts Competition instead of during the National AGM. It was agreed by those present and past competitors they felt that the results should be given at the AGM as it was a more prestigious event. LE the winner this year of the competition felt that it would be nice to know on the Saturday evening if you were in the top three. It was felt that the procedure should stay the same. LE also stated that there is little recognition in winning the competition. Correspondence was also received from Sophie Winzer who won the junior competition last year. They would like a memento to keep. It was mentioned that previous winners at the National Competition received a small silver engraved with the competition and the year. It was agreed that two would be presented to the two winners for 2015 and discussion would take place with the Fund Raising Officer to see if a company would be willing to sponsor the Competition. In Wales there is a group of solicitors who sponsor the competition.

7.3.7. Jump Rope –

7.3.8. SWA had issues with regard to the timing of the competition. From their experience more guidance was given for those teams taking part in the National Final. I.e. three time keepers one timing the overall, one timing the freestyle and one timing the double Dutch element and this worked well.

7.3.9. Dressing Areas – an email had been received from Cumbria regarding one of their team members who was

under the age of 18. Due to the safeguarding arrangements the junior member had been taken to another dressing room away from older girls. As a parental consent form had been signed, one of older girls could have gone with her. This was not the case and the girl in question felt vulnerable away from the rest of the team. A reply had been sent apologising for the error and hoping that the member in question would not be deterred to compete in future. More details would be put on the competitor Notes and stewards to be briefed regarding changing room etc. Demonstration given by the UK Jump Rope Team again went down well.

- 7.3.10. Commercial Dance – everyone enjoyed the demonstration of the two dancers who were also the judges and everyone agreed that the afternoon performances were to a very high standard and we are getting more people attending.
- 7.3.11. Darts – Scott Mitchell & Signed T-Shirt – the darts competition went well with the winner being Mark Curr. It was noted that £600.00 was given from the Round Table but this competition is an Annual Convention Events so competitions do not get the income or expenditure. MC had been presented with the Scott Mitchell shirt. NM said that it would be a fairer way when competitors turned up to play if they were give the numbers in order as she qualified straight into the semi finals. This was just the luck of the draw on the day but it would be looked at for future.
- 7.3.12. Child Licences – worked well this year – all Counties are getting to understand the legislation that is required. This year at the Areas, North, South and Final the Counties that hosted the event need to know that the local authorities had given authorisation from the County where the member lived. Counties need to ensure that they start planning earlier.
- 7.3.13. Raffle – needs to be looked at for future years – need designated teams to sell tickets during the weekend as there is the potential to make lots of money - the amount raised this year £250.00 and CE managed to get good prizes including a weekend break at the Toorak Hotel. Nicola Chegwidden was thanked for giving up her time to do this. Lionel Hill had suggested that we have two raffles one on each day. The committee decided that we one raffle and ask the PD Committee if they could provide a team of people to sell the tickets and raise money for the Competitions Department to reduce our budget costs.

#### 7.4. **ACTION POINTS**

- 7.4.1. **Competitors Notes to state that all team members must be present at booking in for the performing arts competition - MB**
- 7.4.2. **Liaise with Dan Nixon on the new Trophy for the Performing arts Competition - MB**
- 7.4.3. **To seek sponsorship for the Senior and Junior Member of the Year competitors - MB**
- 7.4.4. **Competitor Notes for the Dancing Competitions to have more detailed regarding changing facilities and safeguarding procedures - MB**
- 7.4.5. **Darts to look at the procedure – MB/MC**
- 7.4.6. **Raffle to ask PD if they are able to supply a team to help raise money – MB/MC**
- 7.4.7. **Past Winners of the Performing Arts Competition to be listed in the programme - MB**

### 8. Meetings/ Site visits since previous meeting

- 8.1. Tug of War AGM - to note that either David Hamer or George Goodwin to represent the Committee at meetings. DH is to create a job description for the YFC rep which was circulated around the CSG.
- 8.2. English Winter Fair Meeting – Eblex will sponsor the Nfyfc & S&BAS Competitions at the English Winter Fair to the sum of £1,000. However, they would not be giving the £2.00 off the ticket price for those 80 people that attend the YFC dinner on the Saturday evening. However, at the meeting Bagshaws Agricultural agreed to do this so that the ticket price could be kept the same.

#### 8.3. **ACTION POINTS**

- 8.3.1. **Write to Bagshaws with regard to the sponsorship - MB**

### 9. Competition to be held for the remainder of Rules for 2014-15

- 9.1. **Competitions Day - Saturday, 4th July, 2015 - County Showground, Stafford – All Judges and Stewards arranged**
  - 9.1.1. Public Speaking (16 & Under)
  - 9.1.2. Brainstrust (21 & Under)
  - 9.1.3. After Dinner Speaking (26 & Under) – revamp of the rules for this competition in future years.
  - 9.1.4. Member of the Year (17 & under)

- 9.1.5. Situations Vacant Competition (16-21)
  - 9.1.6. Painted Canvas (16 & Under)
  - 9.1.7. Fashion Make and Model (21 & Under)
  - 9.1.8. Garden Sculpture (26 & Under)
  - 9.1.9. Cube Exhibit – revamp of the rules to take place for this competition if it is held on the future.
  - 9.1.10. Video to take place of the Public Speaking Competitions for Training Purposes for the three main competitions. After Dinner Speaking, Brainstrust and Junior Speaking to promote the competitions and help as a training tool. This will be done by the Comps Team of NFYFC
  - 9.1.11. Contribution to the day from other Steering Committee’s – stands etc
  - 9.1.12. To note that the Competitions – Painted Canvas, Garden Sculpture and Fashion for 2014-2015 were Area Double eliminators. It has been brought to light that entries at Area level have been poor and entries will be down as competitors have to bring their exhibit and discuss with the judges the process. The total number of entries is 22 in each category. This to be monitored at the next meeting.
- 9.2. **Sports Day – Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 – Staffordshire – Weston Road & Beaconside Leisure Centre**
- 9.2.1. Kwik Cricket (10-16)
  - 9.2.2. Cross Country (10-15; 16-21; 22-26) Male and Female – Timing Equipment – Course Marshalls – Reminder that each county needs to provide 1 marshall per team. Competitor Notes were late being sent out as Counties keep amending the team names and cancelling teams. Counties have said that they prefer team events. Claire Worden and Chris Lloyd are putting together an Excel document so that the times can be calculated ready for the day.
  - 9.2.3. Dodgeball (16-26) – comment received from Jon Earys with regard to the age of 16 – 26 he was concerned that we are playing to the national dodgeball association rules. However, at the Eastern Area round there were younger girls in the team aged 16 competing against 26 years old males and they had felt intimidated. The committee discussed this and felt that the judge/umpire/official on the day should have spoken to the teams in question.
  - 9.2.4. Tuck Shop by Staffordshire FYFC at Sports Day.
- 9.3. **Dairy Stockjudging – Yorkshire Agricultural Society – Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 – Great Yorkshire Show – Judges and Stewards had been confirmed**
- 9.3.1. Dairy Stockjudging (16 & Under)
  - 9.3.2. Dairy Stockjudging (21 & Under)
  - 9.3.3. Dairy Stockjudging Linear (26 & Under)
- 9.4. **Tug of War Finals – Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2015 – Tenbury Agricultural Show – Judges and Stewards had been confirmed**
- 9.4.1. Ladies Tug of War
  - 9.4.2. Male Tug of War
  - 9.4.3. GENSB Tug of War
  - 9.4.4. 4 plus 4 Catch Weight Competition
  - 9.4.5. Tug of War Training required for future Judges – there are very few judges on the list that can be used - YFC past members should be encouraged to take up the training – MB to find dates from the Tug of War Association and circulate the information.
- 9.5. **Farm Skills weekend – Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 – Harper Adams University**
- 9.5.1. Young Stockman of the Year
  - 9.5.2. Senior Stockman of the Year – Beef and Sheep by kind permission of the Wilson Family and the Dairy and Pigs at Harper Adams – suggestions were made of Judges to be approached.
  - 9.5.3. Efficiency with Safety – Honda, Kuhn and Massey Ferguson – to provide equipment and Judges and Stewards were suggested
  - 9.5.4. Fence Erecting Competition – Betafence have sponsored Area Rounds with equipment. Judges and Stewards were suggested. WMA had commented that the cost of the Fencing Competition was expensive. It was noted that for County and Area Rounds any procedure could be used but at the National Final the rules would be as published.
- 9.6. **Malvern Autumn Show - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2015 - Three Counties Showground, Malvern, Worcestershire.**

- 9.6.1. Cookery – Ben and Hetty have confirmed that they will be able to judge. Stewards were suggested
- 9.6.2. Floral Art – 3 Judges from the Guild of Floristry had confirmed that they will be able to Judge. Stewards were suggested. Comment were received that 1 hour was too long for the Juniors to make a button hole and it is quite difficult to construct for Juniors.
- 9.6.3. NFYFC will have the same space as in 2014 which worked well.

9.7. **ACTION POINTS**

- 9.7.1. **Letters to be written with regard to Judges and Stewards for Farm Skills Day and Malvern - MB**

## 10. Competition Venues & Dates for 2015-2016

- 10.1. **COMPETITION VENUES & DATES 2015/16 – All rules for the 2015/2016 have been approved and been circulated to Counties. Overall Theme "Tomorrows World".**
  - 10.1.1. Amendment to Junior Tug of War was circulated to all counties with regard to the substitution rule
  - 10.1.2. Deadline date to be agreed for Amendments to Rules – Circulation
  - 10.1.3. An email received from Laura Potts Cumbria that she wished the Cube Exhibit to be reinstated – it was noted that the Cube Exhibit would not be reinstated for 2015-2016 but this would be discussed when planning 2016-2017.
  - 10.1.4. SWA are struggling to fit in their dates for Competitions and for 2016 their day will clash with June Council
- 10.2. **English Winter Fair, County Showground, Stafford – Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2015**
  - 10.2.1. Beef Live and Carcase – 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2015
  - 10.2.2. Lamb Live and Carcase – 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2015
  - 10.2.3. Judges and Stewards were suggested.
- 10.3. **Northern & Southern Regional Finals Public Speaking - for 2016 the North and South Regional will be split on different weekend due to venues not being available as below:**
  - 10.3.1. Northern Public Speaking Final to be held at Retford on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2016 at Retford
  - 10.3.2. Southern Public speaking Final to be held at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2016
- 10.4. **Northern & Southern Regional Finals Drama –**
  - 10.4.1. Northern Performing Arts - to be held at Retford on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2016 at Retford
  - 10.4.2. Southern Performing Arts – to be held at The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham Sunday, 20th March, 2016
  - 10.4.3. To note having the two finals on two separate days would mean writing double Debating topics.
- 10.5. **Annual Convention Winter Gardens, Blackpool – Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2016**
  - 10.5.1. Member of the Year 18 & over
  - 10.5.2. Performing Arts Drama - **GODA Judges** to be used
  - 10.5.3. Darts for Fun
- 10.6. **Annual Convention Winter Gardens, Blackpool - Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2016**
  - 10.6.1. Choir – Need to check acoustics of the room
  - 10.6.2. Ballroom Dancing
- 10.7. **Competitions Day, County Showground, Stafford, Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2016**
  - 10.7.1. Reading (14 & Under)
  - 10.7.2. Public Speaking (16 & Under)
  - 10.7.3. Just a Minute (21 & under)
  - 10.7.4. Debating Competition (26 & under) – New Rules (MACE)
  - 10.7.5. Member of the Year 17 & under
  - 10.7.6. Situations Vacant Competition
  - 10.7.7. Cake Decorating (16 & Under)
  - 10.7.8. Radio Show Live (21 & Under)
  - 10.7.9. Weathervane (26 & Under)



- 10.7.10. Clay Pigeon Shooting (26 & Under) – CLA Game Fair Tickets for Winners (2)
- 10.7.11. Fence Erecting – this competition to be held at Competitions Day as agreed with EMA.
- 10.7.12. Efficiency with Safety- this competition to be held at Competitions Day as agreed with EMA.
- 10.8. **Sports Day – Staffordshire, Sunday, 3<sup>th</sup> July, 2016**
  - 10.8.1. Mixed Volleyball (10 – 16) – England Volleyball Approved
  - 10.8.2. Mixed Touch Rugby (14-17) – 02 Touch Approved
  - 10.8.3. Mixed Ultimate Frisbee (16 – 26) – UK Ultimate Approved
- 10.9. **Dairy Stockjudging – Yorkshire Agricultural Society – Great Yorkshire Show Date TBC July, 2016**
  - 10.9.1. Dairy Stockjudging (16 & Under)
  - 10.9.2. Dairy Stockjudging (21 & Under)
  - 10.9.3. Dairy Stockjudging Linear (26 & Under)
- 10.10. **Tug of War Championships – Tenbury Show – Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2016**
  - 10.10.1. Ladies & Mens Tug of War
  - 10.10.2. GENSB Tug of War
  - 10.10.3. To hold at Fun Catch weight competition after the finals of the Tug of War.
  - 10.10.4. An email had been received about holding the Tug of War at Buckinghamshire Show. To note that 2016 will be a third year of sponsorship at Tenbury Show. For 2019 we would be looking at securing a new sponsorship deal and would bear this venue in mind.
- 10.11. **Farm Skills weekend, venue and date TBC - Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 –**
  - 10.11.1. As we are not holding the Efficiency with Safety and Fence Erecting at this event a new venue will be sought. It was suggested to speak to Brooksby Agricultural College, Leicester to see if they would be able to host the event. It was important that we could judge pigs.
  - 10.11.2. Young Stockman of the Year
  - 10.11.3. Senior Stockman of the Year
- 10.12. **Malvern Autumn Show, Three Counties Showground, Malvern. Date TBC (End of September, 2016)**
  - 10.12.1. Cookery – clarification of wording to rules – regarding ‘what is a dish’ – the term “dish” is defined from the concise Oxford dictionary as “a particular type of food made” (dish or side-dish). At the NFYFC final teams will be required to prepare four dishes/side dishes for a Home Cooked Dinner for an anniversary celebration – to include at least one savoury and one sweet dish. Finalist may choose how to present their dishes. Some finalist may choose to present their entries as courses (plated up) and others may choose to display their dishes buffet style (in serving bowls/presentation bowls).
  - 10.12.2. Floral Art
- 10.13. **ACTION POINTS**
  - 10.13.1. **Venues to be booked for the North and South Regional Finals of the Public Speaking and Drama - MB**

## 11. Competition Guidelines

- 11.1. Updates have been made to *The Source* including Debating and Efficiency with Safety which will be available from September, 2015.
- 11.2. **Action**
  - 11.2.1. **None.**

## 12. Competitions 2016/2017

- 12.1. **Competitions 2016/2017** - Instead of holding an additional meeting in August, 2015 – Steering Committee Reps had been asked to bring forward to the meeting suggestions for the following:- A draft calendar was circulated and the main calendar dates need to be looked at. An email had been received from South West Area who are struggling to fit their dates in.

- 12.2. Overall Theme – **Suggestions received** - Radio 1 are celebrating 50 years – Music could be used in the competitions for 2017; “More than Tractors” (recruitment and retention of members); “Around the World” – the theme chosen need to be something that all the Steering Committees could work with. It was agreed that Around the World would be taken to Council for approval.
- 12.3. Two Types of Dancing or Entertainment for the Sunday afternoon at Convention – possibly a YFC’s Got Talent – need to note that this will be in Torquay and the flooring is only tiled – suggestion were a possible Salsa Dancing. Other ideas were to be sent in to MB and then circulated to the Committee for discussion. CW said that she would look at preparing a set of draft dancing rules.
- 12.4. Three Crafts – 16 & Under; 21 & Under and 26 & Under – after discussion it was agreed to take out the three craft competitions and re-introduce the Cube Exhibit at his would fit the same criteria and a team could work together.
- 12.5. Floral Art – 16 & Under; 21 & Under and 26 & Under – Procedures/Methods – OO agreed to look at drafting the rules.
- 12.6. Cookery – Procedure – Clarification of Wording required - OO agreed to look at drafting the rules.
- 12.7. Efficiency with Safety – Procedure/Equipment – ask Sam Dilcock if he could re-write a draft set of rules.
- 12.8. Fence Erecting – Procedure/Materials/Drawing- to re-use a drawing and procedure from previous years.
- 12.9. Three Sports Competitions – Feedback has been received that we need to go back to more traditional sports – It was agree that the three sports would be – Male 16 and Over football 5 aside on AstroTurf; Female 16 and Over Netball; 10-16 Rounders.
- 12.10. Cost of additional changing room space at Torquay – Performing Arts – Entertainments – 5 Teams – The Princess Theatre lacks enough changing rooms for the amount of competitors we will have. One suggestion is to have two Portakabins as additional changing areas which will be located in the gardens near to the theatre. The cost would be between £500 and £1,000. This amount needs to be added to the budget for 2016-2017.
- 12.11. **ACTIONS POINTS**
  - 12.11.1. **Draft Rules to be prepared for the Sports, Dancing, Floral Art, Cookery, Efficiency with Safety, Fence Erecting, Cube (using amended version) – MB/CW/MC/SD**

### 13. 12.Area Feedback – Any additional items

- 13.1. Northern Area - None
- 13.2. East Midlands – None
- 13.3. West Midlands – None
- 13.4. Eastern Area – None
- 13.5. South West Area – None
- 13.6. Wales- None
- 13.7. South East Area – None

#### 13.8. **ACTION POINTS**

- 13.8.1. **N/A**

### 14. Any Other Business

- 14.1. Agri – Steering Group had asked if the Steering Committee could promote a Design a piece of Machinery competition which is being supported by Kuhn. The committee would support this but it would not be part of the NFYFC Competitions Programme.
- 14.2. CLA – Game Fair – to note that NFYFC had been approached to see if one of the teams from the Cookery Competition Final in 2014 would be willing to do a cookery demonstration at the CLA Game Fair on the Sunday at Harewood House, Leeds. The first, Second and Third place teams have declined so Yorkshire have been asked and they will represent NFYFC.
- 14.3. Concerns were raised about the Just a Minute competition for 2015-2016 – when judges are approached to judge the competition they must be aware of the procedure at both Area and National Finals. It is recommended that they listen to the Radio 4 programme. It was noted that competitors were jumping and speaking too quickly before the other competitor had even started – Judges should be in control of the competition. It was felt it was a good experience to then go on and compete in the other public speaking competitions.

- 14.4. Tug of War Rules – Charlotte Harris had sent in an email with regard to the Tug of War Rules and the fact that the new rules were causing issues. Teams now only pulled two ends, then if the teams were level in the league it went down to cautions, if no cautions had been given it then went onto weight. This had happened at several area rounds where teams had been knocked out on weight. This comment to be looked into further. Also to note that we need to get advice from the Tug of War Association as to what clothing is acceptable to be ‘weighed in’ ready for the final.
- 14.5. JT asked if there was any reason why our NFYFC rules of Tug of War GENSB the age stopped at 17 whilst the GENSB rules finish at 19. This was to be looked into further with David Hamer and GENSB.
- 14.6. Possibility of looking into an evening family event after Competitions Day. It was noted that this had been tried before with little or no attendance. It was agreed to look into having a hog roast after the presentation of awards.
- 14.7. **ACTIONS POINTS**
- 14.7.1. **Support Agri with the Design a Piece of Machinery Competition - ALL**
- 14.7.2. **CLA Game Fair – promote Yorkshire taking part in the demonstration - MB**
- 14.7.3. **Clarification of the Rules needed – Clothing etc MB/MC/DH**
- 14.7.4. **Clarification of the age of GENSB – MB/MC/DH**
- 14.7.5. **Hog Roast After Competitions Day – MB/MC**

## 15. Date of next meeting

- 15.1. Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2105 at the Quality Hotel, Coventry 1:30pm

## 16. Closing remarks

- 16.1. Mark Curr thanked all of the committee members for their input.
- 16.2. **Meeting closed at 6.55 pm**

## 17. Summary of action points

- 17.1. **Vice Chairman – Oonagh O’Neill name to be updated on all necessary paperwork – MB**
- 17.2. **Stockman of the Year Project – to be used for the 2015 Event – MB**
- 17.3. **Sponsorship for the Committee – to keep CSG updated CE, MC, OO and MB**
- 17.4. **YFC Clothing – alternative material to be looked into – MB**
- 17.5. **Terms Reference – Agreement made by the Committee – MB/JCE**
- 17.6. **Budget to be put on the Agenda for future – MB/MC**
- 17.7. **David Hamer to represent the Committee on the EWF Committee – MB**
- 17.8. **Sponsorship on White Coats – rules to be changed on stockjudging, cookery and floral art – MB**
- 17.9. **Tug of War – Competitions Project Group to look at the general rule, appeal process and mobility of memberships – MB**
- 17.10. **Establish an Appeals Panel – members to be written to – MB**
- 17.11. **Photographs to be taken of all competitors at the Tug of War Final – MB**
- 17.12. **After Dinner Speaking rules to be amended then circulated to the Committee – MB**
- 17.13. **Monitor Entry Forms at Area level – MB and Counties**
- 17.14. **Fines to be changed by in the General Rules to Administrative Charge for ‘All’ Competitions**
- 17.15. **Competitors Notes to state that all team members must be present at booking in for the performing arts competition - MB**
- 17.16. **Liaise with Dan Nixon on the new Trophy for the Performing arts Competition - MB**
- 17.17. **To seek sponsorship for the Senior and Junior Member of the Year competitors - MB**
- 17.18. **Competitor Notes for the Dancing Competitions to have more detailed regarding changing facilities and safeguarding procedures - MB**
- 17.19. **Darts to look at the procedure – MB/MC**
- 17.20. **Raffle to ask PD if they are able to supply a team to help raise money – MB/MC**
- 17.21. **Write to Bagshaws with regard to the sponsorship - MB**
- 17.22. **Letters to be written with regard to Judges and Stewards for Farm Skills Day and Malvern - MB**
- 17.23. **Venues to be booked for the North and South Regional Finals of the Public Speaking and Drama - MB**
- 17.24. **Draft Rules to be prepared for the Sports, Dancing, Floral Art, Cookery, Efficiency with Safety, Fence Erecting, Cube (using amended version) – MB/CW/MC/SD**
- 17.25. **Support Agri with the Design a Piece of Machinery Competition - ALL**
- 17.26. **CLA Game Fair – promote Yorkshire taking part in the demonstration - MB**
- 17.27. **Clarification of the Rules needed – Clothing etc MB/MC/DH**
- 17.28. **Clarification of the age of GENSB – MB/MC/DH**
- 17.29. **Hog Roast After Competitions Day – MB/MC**

SIGNED.....

DATED.....

Mark Curr  
Competitions Steering Group Chair