



**Fun, Learning and  
Achievement**

**Minutes of the Competitions Steering Committee Meeting  
held on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2017  
at The Quality Hotel, Allesley Coventry CV5 9BA**

**Chairman: Rachel Parker (Lancashire)**

**Vice Chairman: Fay Thomas (Herefordshire)**

**Present:** Rachel Parker (RP) (Chair 2017, Northern), Fay Thomas (FT) (Vice-Chair 2017, EWF Rep, West Midlands), Natalie Moore (NM) (Northern), Dewi Parry (DP) (Wales), Katie Davies (KD) (Wales), David Hamer (DH) (Tug of War Rep), Christina Coulthard (CC) (Co-Option; Northern), Kate Edginton (CE) (Co-Option; South West), Matthew Frampton (MF) (South West).

**Part Meeting:** Ed Ford (EF) (NFYFC Chair), Thomas Oatey (TO) (Youth Forum Chair), Rachel Black (Youth Forum Vice Chair), James Eckley (JCE) (NFYFC Chief Officer), Sophie Willingale (SW) (NFYFC Fundraising Officer) Lauren Hancox (NFYFC Competitions & Events Admin), Heather Black (HB) NFYFC Chair of Board.

**Observers:** Claire Worden (CW) (South West), Ed Harris (EH) (South West), James Park (JP) (Cumbria - Northern Area).

**In Attendance:** Margaret Bennett (MB) (NFYFC Competitions Officer), Matt Caldicott (MC) (NFYFC Assistant Chief Officer).

1. **Opening Remarks**

Rachel Parker (RP) welcomed members to the Committee meeting and asked them to sign the record of attendance. RP thanked all the Committee for all their help and support with competitions over the summer months. She asked all members to introduce themselves and contribute as much as possible to the discussions. Gill Harrison had now left the Federation.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

Jodie Collin (JC) (Co-Option; Northern), Oonagh O'Neill (OO) (Ex-Officio, Eastern). Katy Kirkham (KK) (East Midlands), Rebecca Horner (RH) (Eastern), Ben Bakel (BB) (East Midlands), Amy Poore (AP) (South East), Sarah Hardman (SH) (West Midlands), Colin Tucker (CT) (South West).  
To note that East Midlands, Eastern and South East Area were not represented at the meeting.

3. **To confirm minutes of previous meeting (18<sup>th</sup> February, 2017)**

The Minutes of the previous Competitions Steering Group (CSG) meeting, held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017, had been circulated; these were signed by (RP) as a true and correct record. Proposed by Dewi Parry Seconded by Katie Davies.

4. **Matters arising from steering group minutes**

- 4.1. Report from Council – Items which were discussed in the Council Meeting prior to the Steering Group – (RP) asked for feedback on the points below:-
  - a) Comments on the Competitions held since the last meeting to include Competitions Day, Sports Day, Dairy Stockjudging, Tug of War, Stockman and Young Stockman of the Year, Floral Art and Cookery no feedback was received.
  - b) Comments with regard to the Sheep Shearing competition hosting at Area Finals - Harriet Wilson asked if consideration could be made to split classes for professional shearers and also the age groups.
  - c) Any Suggestions for a Stockman of the Year Venue for the 2018 Competition – no suggestions received.
  - d) Feedback from Council for a suitable venue for holding the NFYFC Tug of War Finals from 2019 onwards – Fay Thomas suggested Moreton Show at the beginning of September.
  - e) Michael Wood suggested competitions for future either farm diversification or an arable type competition.
- 4.2. Competition Budget to Date – Margaret Bennett (MB) reported on the finances as at the 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2017 – to note that the figures do not include all the costs for Stockman of the Year, Floral Art and Cookery and the English Winter Fair.
  - a) Income for 2016-2017 had amounted to £16,708.25 made up as follows – Sponsorship - £5,000 from

Rutland Fencing; £1,000 Tenbury Show; £1,500 Delacy and £500 from the Ladies Circle. Fines £1,000 and the remainder from ticket sales for the performing arts Competitions.

- b) Expenditure 2016-2017 – amounted £20,694.42.
  - c) Deficit at the 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2017 - £3,986.17. The forecast on the year will be a deficit of -£8,568.17 as opposed to 2016 which had a deficit of -£20,671.45 the difference being the amount of sponsorship received.
- 4.3. NFYFC Fund Raising Officer – Sophie Willingale reported on Companies and Organisations that she is working with to secure funding for 2017-2018 Competitions. Confirmed were BASC of £2,500 to support the Clay Pigeon Shooting and Betafence for the wire for the Fencing Competition at Area and National Finals. At present she had applications in to support the Public Speaking, Sheep Shearing, Floral Art, Cookery and Performing Arts Competitions and would be looking into individual sponsors for the Works Shop Skills (i.e. the different elements).
  - 4.4. Competitions Facebook Group – (MB) reported that at present there were still 5 people who had not signed the paperwork to be registered on facebook. A discussion took place and it was agreed that emails would be used for large documents and facebook for quick decisions and responses and this would be monitored over the next few months.
  - 4.5. New Website Design (Competitions) – Gary Woodman and Gill Harrison had spent time over the summer months to set up new pages for Competitions which hopefully makes it easier to find information. Steering Committee members to take a look and feedback any comments and amendments they wish to be made.

### **ACTION POINTS**

- **Facebook Group to be used alongside emails - MB**
  - **Sponsorship Updates on a regular basis - MB and Sophie Willingale**
  - **Steering Committee to look at facebook and report back - ALL**
- Council to Note: Website has been updated with all Competitions Information for 2017/2018**  
**Council to Approve: None**  
**Council to Report: None**

### 5. **To receive relevant correspondence**

- 5.1. Letters received – to be discussed under the headings of the competitions if applicable

### 6. **Competition since the last meeting**

- 6.1. **Competition Monitoring for 2016-17** and to be included in club health check

- 6.1.1.1. For 2016-2017 not all Counties had sent in their monitoring form - calculations were not able to be made to give realistic outcomes. Instead an Overall Summary had been put together with regard to the NFYFC Competitions. This shows the costs per members. For example Competitions Day costs £33.00 per member and Tug of War £6 per member. However, again there are lots of facts to take into consideration, Tenbury Show is a free venue and we pay for the Showground also 300 people take part in the Tug of War and on Competitions there are more competitions but less people taking part. The charts also showed increase in attendance at various competitions.

- 6.1.2. **Ways to Earn Additional Money**

- 6.1.2.1. Further Sponsorship working closely with NFYFC Fundraising Officer to find additional Companies/Individuals to support the programme
- 6.1.2.2. Increase charge for Tickets for Performing Arts and to charge for Sunday dancing performances – we have already increased the cost for the Performing Arts and introduced a cost for the Sunday afternoon dancing competitions this would be reflected in the 2017-2018 competitions year.
- 6.1.2.3. Northern and Southern Regional Finals for Speaking Only – question to the Committee ‘do we need them’ this would save around £1,500 and other costs in Staff Time, Judges expenses, finding an additional 12 Judges, Stewards, Accommodation and food. At present we have 4 teams at the North and 4 Teams in the South – 2 from each Regional Final go through to Semi Finals – and one team from Wales making 5 at the final. At the National Finals we would have 10 teams taking part in the past Judges and competitors have commented that 10 is too many so if we took it down to 1 team per Area this would mean 7 teams at the National Final which would be manageable. It was agreed at the meeting that this would be taken to Council for further discussion – the comments in the meeting were – Northern to keep Semi Finals; South West to keep Semi Finals; Wales happy with any decision as they were only allowed to have one team in either scenario; West Midlands not to have the Semi Finals and no representatives from East Midlands, South East and Eastern to comment – to be discussed in more detail at the February Meeting of the outcomes.
- 6.1.2.4. Increase participation to make each event better value for money.
- 6.1.2.5. Possible look at increase fines as at the moment individuals pay the same fine as a team.

### 6.2. **Competitions Day – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July, Stafford County Showground, Staffordshire**

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- 6.2.1. Reading (14 & Under) – no comments received
  - 6.2.2. Public Speaking (16 & Under) – no comments received
  - 6.2.3. Brainstrust (21 & Under) – no comments received
  - 6.2.4. After Dinner Speaking (26 & Under) – no comments received
  - 6.2.5. Member of the Year (17 & Under) – no comments received
  - 6.2.6. Situation Vacant (16-21) – no comments received
  - 6.2.7. Cube Exhibit - Aimee Mahony acted as Steward on the day and had sent in an email - saying that in future we need to have two stewards, as the judges were quite demanding asking for all exhibits to be taken off the stand, which raised concerns. To note that the Judges were really thorough. NFYFC need to look at the criterion that is given to members for this competition as the Judges were marking to a WI standard. Judges did give verbal feedback and short comments, but it was felt that handwritten comments would be more beneficial after the event. Letters had also been received from Janet Billington and Gill Dinnis who were part of the judging team on the day – teams to note that two of the exhibits were oversized and were marked down accordingly, floral art and cookery ranged from good to poor. There is guidelines that can be used called 'On with the Show' and this would be purchased to look at the Cube Rules for 2018-2019.
  - 6.2.8. Clay Pigeon Shooting (26 & Under) & (17 & Under) – email comments from Donna Tavernor for acted as a steward on the day – it would help to have the presentation of awards at the shooting ground and ask the NFYFC Officers to go and present the prizes, possibly have a few banners etc. this was agreed. Possibly introduce a ladies section. This would be included in the main shoot and the highest lady would receive a prize card. Sophie Willingale (SW) said that she may be able to get sponsorship for this competition from the Chelsea Bun Club (ladies shooting company). NFYFC to have designated stands i.e. 7 so that the competition can be run quicker. On the day an Open Shoot was held. Pairs of Game Fair tickets were given to the top 3 in both age groups.
  - 6.2.9. Fence Erecting – email from Judge Rob Bell – suggested that we should be allowing 2 ½ hours for the competition and this had been addressed in the 2017/2018 rules. He also suggested that a height restriction should be in place. It was agreed by the committee that the rules should stay the same. Comment was received regarding three Judges – it was noted that all three marks were added together and then the average was taken. The judges did look at the fences to see if they had them in the order they wished before the results were announced. It was also noted that again Fencing is constructed in different ways/styles throughout the Country and it was felt that you needed three judges from different areas. It was agreed to keep the three Judges for future.
  - 6.2.10. Efficiency with Safety an excellent competition – (RP) commented on one of the Judges who was not very pleasant on the day with regard to taking away the competition for future years in regards to the safety element. It was pointed out that in the Workshop Skills Competition there would still be a safety element and also NFYFC would be working with the Yellow Wellies Campaign with different scenarios' in relation to Health and Safety. Matt Caldicott (MT) commented on the realistic farm accident set up by Arley Medical.
  - 6.2.11. Outside Exhibitors including RBST, Rutland Fencing, Europasat, HOPS, Other steering groups – those who attended felt that the various companies added to the day and it was agreed to ask them again along with other Companies/Sponsors could be approached for future.
  - 6.2.12. Youth Forum Feedback – enjoyed having a game stand and would be happy to run something in the future but they would like to be involved in the Interviews speaking to parents and the competitors to let them know what the Junior Forum entailed. It was noted that other members of the forum could be invited to attend to do the games.
  - 6.2.13. General Feedback – to ask the Judges to stay after prize giving so that competitors are able to ask for feedback especially in the Public Speaking Competitions and the Finals and the Regional Finals.
- 1.1. **Sports Day – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Stafford Grammar School, Staffordshire**
- 1.1.1. Mixed Rounder's (10-16) – no comments received
  - 1.1.2. Ladies Netball (16-26) - (FT) and (DP) noted the behaviour and attitude to the refs on the day by parents of members competing. It was agreed by the committee that this was not acceptable and it does say in the general rules that parents/supporters must adhere to our rules. (RP) would remind Council members of this rule.
  - 1.1.3. Men's 5 a Side Football (10-26) – no comments received.
  - 1.1.4. The day went really well and the school facilities were excellent.
- 1.2. **Dairy Stockjudging – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July, Great Yorkshire Show, Harrogate**
- 1.2.1. Dairy Stockjudging (u16, u21 & u26) – no comments received
  - 1.2.2. Stock from Exhibitors – excellent
  - 1.2.3. Handlers – excellent

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- 1.2.4. To note that one intermediate member was told on several occasions that she should not be speaking to anyone else other than Judges/Stewards. She was spoken to by the Steward on several occasions. Competitors must adhere to the rules of the competition.
  - 1.2.5. In the Senior Section it was noted that the animals were paraded around but not brought up into a line of 4 to compare them for Linear Assessment – this was an oversight on the day as this should have been done.
  - 1.2.6. (RP) had been asked if it would be possible to have additional tickets for parents or guardians for those competing who are under 18. This question also gets asked about Malvern for the Floral Art and Cookery. At both venues the cost of a day ticket is around £25.00 per day. It was noted that both offer early bird discounted tickets on their websites and this is publicised on the Competitor Notes and Social Media.
- 1.3. **Tug of War Championships – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August, Tenbury Show, Worcestershire**
    - 1.3.1. Ladies and Men's Tug of War
    - 1.3.2. GENSB Tug of War
    - 1.3.3. Letter from Herefordshire at the last meeting a letter had been received with regard to the West Midlands Area Final – in the way in which the competition had run. A letter had been sent back to Julian Lloyd and Warwickshire Men's team took part in the final. No further discussion needed from the Committee.
    - 1.3.4. To note that for 2017/2018 two forms of ID would be required.
    - 1.3.5. The way in which we ran the competition for 2016/2017 would mean that we would be able to have less Judges for future years.
    - 1.3.6. Information had been sent to County Offices with regard to training courses for Judges/Recorders please advertise to past members who have an interest in tug of war.
    - 1.3.7. The whole day went extremely well with over 300 competitors taking part the hospitality received from the Society - marquee, electrical equipment and gator service.
  - 1.4. **Stockjudging Competitions – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, 3rd September, 2017 (Dawtry Cottage Farm, Staffordshire)**
    - 1.4.1. Stockman of the Year – Senior – Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, 3rd September, 2017
    - 1.4.2. Project and Vet Tasks – Saturday – comments received the Project and Vet Tasks were fine.
    - 1.4.3. Sponsorship ABP and Woodstream – Steaks provided by ABP were well received.
    - 1.4.4. Stockman of the Year – Junior – Sunday, 3rd September, 2017 (Only)
    - 1.4.5. Identification of Meat and VET questionnaire – Areas are reminded that some training needs to be given as one Junior had 'zero' marks.
    - 1.4.6. The Wright Family were thanked for an excellent site, stock and their hospitality.
  - 1.5. **Malvern Autumn Show – Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2017**
    - 1.5.1. Cookery – Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2017 - thank you from Helen McAnulty & Judges to say that they had had an excellent day. Feedback was also received from parents on the day on behalf of their children to thank stewards on the day with regard to those who had health issues.
    - 1.5.2. Pembrokeshire YFC were thanked for taking part in the demonstration in the Cookery Theatre at the Show – this was an excellent performance and Jill Luke Evans gave a commentary of what was being cooked and also about New Members Week.
    - 1.5.3. Floral Art – Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 – Judges Comments are excellent; however, the Senior Judge took a long time to Judge. Feedback received is that we need to check buckets/boxes for any pre-prepared items. Perhaps starting the competition a little earlier once everyone has laid out their flowers we ask competitors to leave the work surfaces so that a check can be made by the Stewards. DP was asked when we use NAFAS Rules but then have Floristry Guild Judges. It was noted that they both organisations have different styles and requirements. MB said she would look into but for the last 8 year this had been the case.

## **ACTION POINTS**

- **Cube Exhibit – look at criteria for Judging and ensure 2 Stewards in Future – MB**
- **Monitor behaviour of parents/supporters at competitions finals – ALL**
- **Advertise 'Early Bird Tickets' for Malvern and Great Yorkshire Earlier – MB**
- **Possible sponsorship with ABP – MB & SW**
- **Floral Art – we work with NAFAS Rules but use Floristry Guild Judges – MB to look into**
- **Council to Note:**
- **County Monitoring to ensure that all Counties complete the 2017/2018 feedback form - MB**
- **Introduction of a Ladies Competition in the Clay Pigeon Shooting – working with Chelsea Bun Club for sponsorship – MB & SW**

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- **Two forms of ID will be required for Tug of War Competitions – MB**
- **Training Courses for Judges/Recorders for Tug of War Competitions to be publicised - ALL**

**Council to Approve: None**

**Council to Report:**

- **Discussion to take place with regard to the Northern and Southern Regional Finals of Public Speaking.**

2. **Meetings/site visits since previous meeting**

- 2.1. English Winter Fair – to be covered in the report below.
- 2.2. Tug of War Association – DH reported on an international level Judges check boots and tag them to say that they have been checked to a standard – the question to the committee is ‘Do we need to tag the boots’? It was agreed that for the NFYFC final Judges would just look at the boots and not have them tagged. All Competitions that are run should be held under a Tug of War Permit and Judges selected from the TOW Association.
- 2.3. Christina Coulthard CC had sent an email in with regard to the weight of the ladies team. Currently NFYFC rules state that the combined weight should be 580 and this should be reduced to 560 as more and more teams are pulling outside the YFC Competitions. This comment to have further discussion from Council.
- 2.4. TOW Judges it was noted that NFYFC need to promote courses for Judges/Recorders as it is important to support the TOW Association as we do need a large amount of Judges over the summer period. It was noted that Cumbria and Cornwall have recently sent members on courses and they would be happy to come along and Steward and gain more experience from the Grade 1 and Grade 2 Judges. DH explained how you become a Judge through the different processes.
- 2.5. Three Counties Agricultural Society – All Stars Show – MB along with Gill Harrison had attended the show in August. The visit was to look at it as a possible venue for the Stockman of the Year Competition. However, it was felt that this would not be feasible due to the number of stock as it would mean bringing all the stock we would need on to the site. However, it was noted that a large amount of YFC members take part in various elements from the breed societies – beef, sheep, dairy and pigs and put on a mini show with elements such as stockjudging, clipping, and displaying an exhibit and showing their stock and giving reason with all the marks being added together to give an overall total team. They also compete for prize money, gifts and trophies. This event could be promoted through NFYFC as the event is supported by The Three Counties Agricultural Society.

**ACTION POINTS**

- **Weight Limit – Ladies -Tug of War - MB**

**Council to Note: None**

**Council to Approve: None**

**Council to Report: Areas to discuss the weight limit for Ladies Tug of War from 580kg to 560kg – Council**

3. **UPCOMING COMPETITIONS FOR 2017-18 (Matters Arising)**

- 3.1. **English Winter Fair – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017**
  - 3.1.1. Beef Live and Carcase (26 & Under) and (18 & Under) – Beef will be from the Exhibitors
  - 3.1.2. Lamb Live and Carcase (26 & Under) and (18 & Under) – Lambs will be brought in especially for the YFC Competitions
  - 3.1.3. Sponsors SBAS, AHDB & Woodstream – AHDB prize money available for competitors.
  - 3.1.4. Saturday YFC Meal - £10.00 per person a limited number of tickets 100 and are now on sale.
  - 3.1.5. WMA Regional Discussion Group as part of the Defra Grant, this will be held in the Staffordshire YFC Office between 11.45 am – 1.45 pm it is hoped that competitors taking part would support this event and lunch will be available.
  - 3.1.6. Judges and Stewards are all secured for the event.
  - 3.1.7. English Winter Fair have secured classes that were originally held at Smithfield a representative will be presenting the YFC Trophies (Smithfield) Trophies) that were given to NFYFC for Stockjudging Competitions
  - 3.1.8. Ensure members are aware how to classify animals as they will be requested to classify Live and Carcases – Beef and Lamb.
- 3.2. **Regional Finals**
  - 3.2.1. Northern Regional Final - Public Speaking – Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 – Retford Oaks Academy – Confirmed
  - 3.2.2. Northern Regional Final – Pantomime – Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 – Majestic Theatre, Retford – Confirmed
  - 3.2.3. Southern Regional Final - Public Speaking – Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 – Hartpury College – Confirmed

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- 3.2.4. Southern Regional Final – Pantomime – Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 – The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham – Confirmed
- 3.2.5. Child Licences – Body of Persons Exemption for Area, Regional and National Finals – Performing Arts – MB and Cath Sykes will be working on this with the Department of Education in the next few months to seek an exemption for the Performing Arts Competition.
- 3.2.6. Advertise the performances within the local area – i.e. school, community groups, youth theatre – Nottinghamshire, Gloucestershire and Lancashire to be asked if they can advertise the Regional Finals and Final in their areas.
- 3.3. **Annual Convention – The Opera House Theatre, Blackpool – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2018 – Judges and Stewards – suggestions required.**
- 3.3.1. Compeers needed for the North, South and Final of the Pantomime Competition. Suggestions were made.
- 3.3.2. NODA/GODA Judges to be used at the North, South and Final of the Pantomime Competition – it was agreed to appoint 3 x NODA Judges at each of the rounds.
- 3.3.3. Sponsorship, Programmes and Trophies - SW is in the process of seeking sponsorship for the printing of programmes and also the glass trophies given in the performing arts competition. Programmes would be sold at £3 at North, South and Finals.
- 3.3.4. Member of the Year 18 & over – (Saturday interview, stage interview. Sunday announcement at AGM meeting) – glass trophies from TAMA – Judges were suggested.
- 3.3.5. Performing Arts – Admission would be £12 Adults; Under 16 £6 and under 5's free.
- 3.3.6. Tickets/Wristbands – at the Regional Finals no tickets will be printed it will be pay on the day. Pre-ordered tickets will now be wristbands. MB to look into the possibility of selling tickets online just for the Final.
- 3.3.7. Darts for Fun – the first competition was held in 2014 and sponsorship was obtained, but for 2017 no sponsorship was forthcoming and it had lost money - £58.00. It was agreed that for 2018 entry fee would stay the same at £5.00 and the prize money would be as follows: - First Prize £100.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £50.00 2 x Semi Finalists now £20.00; Opposite Sex Highest Placed from £25.00 to £20.00 and the Six Dart Challenge form £25.00 to £20.00. It was hoped that a sponsor would be secured. Discuss was the possibility of doing a separate competition including 1 dart and board. Exact details would be discussed at the next meeting.
- 3.3.8. Raffle – rota to be drawn up at the February meeting, teams will be required from Friday afternoon, Saturday Darts, Saturday Performing Arts, Sunday AGM and Sunday afternoon dancing competitions, the draw would be made on Sunday. Prizes are required from each steering group member to be brought to February meeting. It was easier to sell tickets if you had a mixed gender to sell tickets on the day.
- 3.3.9. Competitions Stand (Friday during registration) – it was agreed that we would not have a competition and just sell raffle tickets and have posters advertising which teams were taking part over the weekend in the various competitions.
- 3.3.10. Disco Dancing (Sunday) – MB to source a demonstration
- 3.3.11. Jump Rope (Sunday) – MB to source a demonstration
- 3.3.12. Charge for the Sunday afternoon – members of the Committee to ensure that competitors are aware that a charge will be made for Sunday afternoon £5 Adults and under 16's free and those with a convention packages would be free for spectators.
- 3.4. **Competitions Day, County Showground, Stafford, Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 – Judges and Stewards required – forms were circulated in the meeting for suggestions this would also be sent to County Offices. To go through each competition and receive feedback from the committee.**
- 3.4.1. Reading (14 & Under) – no comments received
- 3.4.2. Public Speaking (16 & Under) – no comments received
- 3.4.3. Just a Minute (21 & under) – no comments received
- 3.4.4. Debating (26 & under) – no comments received
- 3.4.5. Member of the Year (17 & under) – (to note amendment to rules 'all those competing will be eligible to attend the Youth Forum').
- 3.4.6. Situations Vacant (16-21) – no comments received
- 3.4.7. YFC Live (26 & Under) – no comments received
- 3.4.8. Dream Machine (26 & Under) – Patent/Copyright – MB noted that JCE had been speaking to solicitors to ensure that the design would stay with the member if a company wished to produce the winning or any other entry in the final. Wording would be available at the meeting in February and this would go to all the competitors. As this was a direct entry competition if there were too many entries a short list would be made and the finalists invited to Competitions Day for judging by KHUN.

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- 3.4.9. Fence Erecting – An email had been received from Cumbria with regard to the wood being too expensive. In the rules there are two sets of rules that can be adapted at a County Round. Counties are able to design their own. To note amendment to the rules ‘wood has been slightly amended please make Counties/Areas aware’). Betafence would be supporting the competition at Area and the Finals with wire.
- 3.4.10. Work Shop Skills – RP asked if any counties were experiencing problems with finding venues for the welding and grinding competitions and the feedback was that counties hold the welding on annual basis. To note at Competitions Day in 2018 this competition would be held outside under a marquee structure with no sides.
- 3.4.11. Clay Pigeon Shooting (26 & Under and 17 & Under) (amendment to rules add in a Ladies Competition)
- 3.4.12. Outside Exhibitors ask those who came in 2017 and see if any other sponsors would be willing to attend. BACS could be approached to do a Gun Dog Display.
- 3.4.13. Staffordshire YFC will be holding a Music Festival during late afternoon and evening.
- 3.4.14. Sponsorship – SW to seek sponsorship for the day.
- 3.4.15. Input from other steering groups – plan to be presented to Competitions at February meeting – Events Committee have been asked to come back with suggestions to make the Day more of an event.
- 3.4.16. **Sports Day – Staffordshire, Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018**
- 3.4.17. Mixed Dodgeball (10-16)
- 3.4.18. Mixed 7 aside Hockey (16-26)
- 3.4.19. Mixed Ultimate Frisbee (16 – 26)
- 3.4.20. Venue - Unfortunately, we are unable to go to the school used in 2017 as they do not have astro-turf therefore, we will return to Rugeley Leisure Centre, Staffordshire where we have used in previous years.
- 3.5. **Dairy Stockjudging – Yorkshire Agricultural Society – Great Yorkshire Show – 12th July, 2018**
  - 3.5.1. Dairy Stockjudging (16 & Under)
  - 3.5.2. Dairy Stockjudging (21 & Under)
  - 3.5.3. Dairy Stockjudging Linear (26 & Under)
  - 3.5.4. Update from Holstein UK regarding Linear Assessment Card – Holstein UK have recently updated their Judging Card/Criteria the information was circulated to the meeting and it was agreed to follow their procedure. Amendments would be made and circulated to County Offices and cards would be available to purchase from the Club Shop.
- 3.6. **Tug of War Championships – Tenbury Show – Saturday, 4th August, 2018**
  - 3.6.1. Ladies & Men’s Tug of War
  - 3.6.2. GENSB Tug of War
  - 3.6.3. Youth Forum feedback – discussion to take place about striking a balance between wellbeing and the competitions not just Tug of War. The Tug of War Association along with other sporting organisation are aware of this and after discussion MB to speak with the TOWA and also NFYFC Jodie Green to put guidelines into place – to include drinking enough water, eating before and during competitions, sun creams etc. This would be reported back to the next meeting in February.
  - 3.6.4. All Counties/Areas to ensure that when the weather is hot especially consideration must be given to drinks and food etc.
- 3.7. **Stockman of the Year – Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2018**
  - 3.7.1. Senior Stockman of the Year – Project & Vet Tasks keep the same
  - 3.7.2. Junior Stockman of the Year – all elements keep the same
  - 3.7.3. Venue for 2018 – MB to ask the Wright Family or suggest another local farmer in Staffordshire.
- 3.8. **Malvern Cookery and Floral Art**
  - 3.8.1. Cookery – Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2018
  - 3.8.2. Salmon and Cream Cheese (note amendment to the rule ‘it is the combination of salmon and cream cheese together – cream cheese can be used in a dessert if required) MB with NFYFC Sarah Palmer had recently had a meeting with the ‘Red Tractor’ and they have asked if we could use their logo to support British Food and this was agreed by the Committee they would also give Red Tractor Aprons for the cookery winners at the finals.
  - 3.8.3. Floral Art – Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2018
  - 3.8.4. Malvern RHS Schedule was circulated for the Spring Fair and they have introduced a competition to run with our theme – Magic and Mystery.
  - 3.8.5. Venue for the NFYFC Floral Art and Cookery – this may change for future years the finals will still be held at the Autumn Festival but in a different location. Discussions are taking place, it was noted that we need to have the same amount of space including electricity as we do now.

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## ACTION POINTS

- Secure Judges for Northern & Southern Public Speaking Competitions – MB
- Write to Compere for the Pantomime Competition – North and South – MB
- Approach NODA Judges – North, South and Final - MB
- Child Licences – MB to work with Cath Sykes
- Sponsorship for Trophies, Programme – Pantomime – MB & SW
- Raffle Prizes – All
- Darts – 1 dart around the board
- Disco Dancing & Jump Rope – Demonstrations – MB
- Sending out Request for Judges to County Offices – MB
- Dream Machine Patent/Copyright – Wording for next meeting – MB/JCE
- Secure Venues for 2018 Competitions – MB
- Update Linear Stockjudging Cards – Holstein UK – MB
- Health and wellbeing of members at Competitions – drinks, food, sun creams etc – MB Jodie Green
- Promote RHS at Spring Festival Malvern

Council to Note: None

Council to Approve: None

Council to Report: None

## 4. COMPETITION RULES FOR 2017-18 – Matters Arising

- 4.1. Sheep Shearing – Sponsorship, Feedback and Training - during the summer months MB had emailed Counties and Area Chairman to ask for Feedback as to whether it was viable to hold a competition – several Counties responded – Norfolk, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Brecknock, East Riding, Shropshire, Worcestershire and Cumbria. The NFYFC Final would be held at the Great Yorkshire Show on the Thursday with a double Area Eliminator.
- 4.2. The cost for this competition would be in the region of £2,000 this would be mainly the transport of sheep to the show. SW is working on a sponsorship package with various sponsors including The British Wool Board. It was stressed that any County/Area holding Shearing Competitors **MUST** insist that all competitors have the 'Blue Seal' and evidence must be available on the day either with their certificate or they must be on the BISCA database. The rules that have been circulated have stated that the NFYFC Final will follow 'BISCA Rules' and updated rules can be found on the Wool Board website. In the meeting RP asked Area reps for feedback – Northern Area – holding their round with their Field Day; South West Area have 3 suitable venues; West Midlands – Three Counties Show; no representatives from Eastern, East Midlands or South East Area MB had received a call to say that plans were in place to hold the SEA Final at the east of England Show, Wales hold their finals at the Royal Welsh but have stated that they would probably send their 2017 finalists to the final if they wished to attend.
- 4.3. Risk Assessments – NFYFC were in the process of working with John Radford to put together templates for Counties use for Competitions/Events. All Counties are encouraged to put together Risk Assessments for everything they organise.
- 4.4. Video for Public Speaking – EH asked if NFYFC had footage of videos for public speaking that could be used as a training tool. MB reported that we do have a selection of videos – Junior Public Speaking, Brainstrust, Just a Minute, Debating and After Dinner Speaking. MC & MB agreed to look at them and see if they can be put in some form to send out to counties.
- 4.5. Posting Tickets to County Offices for the Great Yorkshire Show, Tenbury Show, Malvern - in some cases offices were not receiving their packs and duplicated were being sent out. The only way we can guarantee delivery is to pay additional costs – but this would work out expensive. MB was to ask to speak to Show Societies to see if they used e tickets that could be sent to NFYFC and then sent onto Counties.
- 4.6. Youth Forum – wished the Committee to look at the time of year that Competition Finals take place – TO discussed that junior members were struggling to balance young farmers, school and university exams especially in the months of May, June and July. It was suggested that Counties look at the Calendar of Events and see if competitions can be held earlier. However, it was noted that most Rallies are held in June/July.
- 4.7. Youth Forum – wished the Committee to look at animal rearing Competitions at a National Final – after discussion this was agreed to leave at County level as the logistics and TB regulations would have an impact if a National Final was to be held.
- 4.8. Youth Forum – are pleased that the Video's are being used on the website to help engage members in competitions.

## ACTION POINTS

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- **Sheep Shearing all Competitors at every level must have their Blue Seal Certificate – All**
- **Risk Assessments – MB & JCE**
- **Videos of Public Speaking – MB & MC**
- **E Tickets for Tenbury, Great Yorkshire and Malvern – MB**
- **Counties to look at their Calendars re timing of competitions – ALL**

**Council to Note: All Competitors taking part in Shearing Competition MUST have the minimum of a Blue Certificate**

**Council to Approve: None**

**Council to Report: None**

## 5. **Competitions Rules 2018 – 2019**

### 5.1. **Rules ready for approval – to go through in the meeting – No Theme**

- 5.1.1. Beef Live & Carcase - approved
- 5.1.2. Pigs Live & Carcase - approved
- 5.1.3. Member of the Year (18 & Over) – approved
- 5.1.4. Choir – Semi-directed piece was agreed - Suggestion to the meeting was to use songs that had been on X Factor. However, the Committee suggested using Disney Songs if we are not able to use Disney as a brand then the other suggestion would be to use any top 40 song in the charts from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2018.
- 5.1.5. Ballroom Dancing – Theme to be confirmed – approved with no theme
- 5.1.6. Reading (14 & Under) – approved – if there is more than one version then this must be stated.
- 5.1.7. Public Speaking (16 & Under) - approved
- 5.1.8. Brainstrust (21 & Under) –approved
- 5.1.9. Member of the Year (17 & Under) - approved
- 5.1.10. Situations Vacant (16 to 21 years) – approved
- 5.1.11. Cube Exhibit (26 & Under) – Theme agreed would be Children’s TV – Craft 2 to use British Produce; Craft 3 - Include British Wool in textile element; Craft 5 – Art – a piece of art work using any medium. Ensure that outside boards are covered to compliment the exhibit.
- 5.1.12. Clay Pigeon Shooting (26 & Under 17) – add in a Ladies Competition – approved
- 5.1.13. Sports (10-16 years) – Mixed Rounder’s – approved
- 5.1.14. Sports (14-17 years) – Mixed Touch Rugby – approved
- 5.1.15. Sports (16-26 years) – Mixed Netball. Male players limited to Maximum of 3 players and a minimum of 1 on court at anytime – there would be no restrictions as to where they can play- approved
- 5.1.16. Sheep Shearing – including BISCA rules and Must have Blue Seal Qualification – approved – these rules would be approved at a later date once the 2018 Sheep Shearing Competition had been held.
- 5.1.17. Dairy Stockjudging - (Under 16, Under 21 and Under 26) - approved
- 5.1.18. Tug of War – GENSB, Ladies & Men’s - approved
  - 5.1.18.1. Tenbury Show -Tug of War (2018 will be the last year of the 5 year Sponsorship) Committee – no one on the Committee had come back with a firm proposal for hosting the competition. A proposal had been received from Tenbury Agricultural Committee – stating that they would like to host the competition from 2019-2023 for a figure of £1,750 per year for 5 years. The Committee agreed that this would be accepted and was Proposed by Dewi Parry and Seconded by Christina Coulthard. This gave an increase of £750 per year on the previous sponsorship proposal and this was unanimously agreed by those present at the meeting.
- 5.1.19. Young Stockman of the Year (18 & Under) – Just the Venue - approved
- 5.1.20. Senior Stockman of the Year (26 & Under) – Just the Venue – approved

### 5.2. **Rules for further discussion**

- 5.2.1. Performing Arts – Entertainments/Drama/Pantomime – Working Party - rules had been sent out to the group nominated at the last meeting. Feedback was being received. Once all the feedback had been received this would be circulated to Committee and other interested parties for consultation.
- 5.2.2. After Dinner Speaking (26 & Under) – Timings to be discussed, Letter from Mary Bailey and James Hollingsworth with regard to timings and the marking system in particular – Respondent to Speaker should only speak for 2 minutes instead of 6 and receive 20 marks; the Proposer to Visitors should have 4 minutes which is the same but only receive 30 marks instead of 35; Respondent on behalf of the Visitors 2 minutes instead of 4 and only receive 20 instead of 20. The Committee decided that the rules should stay the same. With regard to the ‘How to Guide’ grammar would be amended but this did not alter the way the competition was run. Mary and James had also which to add to the ‘How to Guide’ – it was agreed by the Committee that this would be looked into and reported back to the next meeting.
- 5.2.3. Auctioneering – Procedure and Mark Scheme to be discussed with Thomas Oatey to present – Youth Forum were looking forward to the inclusion of this competition. Rules had been sent out to various

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auctioneers for discussion. In the meeting it was agreed to send EH the rules as at present and to re-word and bring back to the next meeting.

- 5.2.4. Fence Erecting (26 & Under) – with a Corner – DH went through the rules and the time allowed is 2 ¾ however it needed to state in the rules that at County/Area level a time of 2 ½ hours is advisable – approved.
- 5.2.5. Workshop Skills (26 & Under) – New Name – Suggestion was 'Farm Safety Skills' – three suggestions were put forward – including Top Linkage; Cattle Trailer and 4 x 4; Loadall – it was agreed at the meeting to use PTO attachment and Cattle Trailer along with ATV, First Aid and hopefully working with regard to Yellow Wellies, Hazard Perception task at national final only.
- 5.2.6. Cookery – Meal and Theme Ideas – No Theme – Competitors will be asked 'Prepare and display four courses for the Rare Breeds Survival Trust (RBST) Gala Dinner and this was agreed. To add to the marking scheme 10 marks to be added for the backboard. Where possible to use the Red Tractor Logo. This was agreed.
- 5.2.7. Floral Art – (Under 16, Under, 21, and Under 26) Exhibit and Theme Ideas – the size to be checked 60 x 60 with no height restriction – in previous years this had been 60 x 75 MB to check; 10 marks to be added if a backboard is used. Under 16 Exhibit Title – My Great Hobby – Under 21 Exhibit – Great Craftsmanship – Under 26 – Exhibit Great Inventions that changed the world – these rules were approved.

### **ACTION POINTS**

- All rules to have the new YFC header on them – MB & LH
- Approved Rules to be circulated to County Offices – MB & LH
- More work to be carried out on After Dinner, Workshop Skills, Choir, Performing Arts, Workshops Skills, Auctioneering – MB & LH

**Council to Note: None**

**Council to Approve: None**

**Council to Report: None**

### 6. **Area Feedback** – unless covered under agenda items above

- Northern Area – no additional comments
- East Midlands – not present
- West Midlands – no additional comments
- Eastern Area - not present
- South West Area – no additional comments
- Wales – no additional comments
- South East Area – not present

### **ACTION POINTS**

- N/A

**Council to Note: None**

**Council to Approve: None**

**Council to Report: None**

### 7. **Any other Business**

- Meat for the Market Training (Beef & Sheep in conjunction with AHDB) – training course application form given out.
- Working together with the National Junior Pig Club to hold a Training Event to promote Pig Stockjudging
- Annual Convention – Stewarding – if anyone could help to contact Erica Attwood at NFYFC.
- February Steering Committee - nominations will be required for Chairman, Vice Chairman and three co-options – MB to send out an email in January for nominations which will be circulated to the Committee prior to the February meeting.
- RP thanked everyone for their attendance.

### **ACTION POINTS**

**Council to Note: None**

**Council to Approve: None**

**Council to Report: None**

### 8. **Date of next meeting**

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8.1. Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2018

9. **Closing remarks**

9.1. Meeting closed at 6.41 pm

10. **Summary of Action Points**

- Facebook Group to be used alongside emails - MB
- Sponsorship Updates on a regular basis - MB and Sophie Willingale
- Steering Committee to look at facebook and report back - ALL
- Weight Limit – Ladies -Tug of War - MB
- Cube Exhibit – look at criteria for Judging and ensure 2 Stewards in Future – MB
- Monitor behaviour of parents/supporters at competitions finals – ALL
- Advertise ‘Early Bird Tickets’ for Malvern and Great Yorkshire Earlier – MB
- Possible sponsorship with ABP – MB & SW
- Floral Art – we work with NAFAS Rules but use Floristry Guild Judges – MB to look into
- County Monitoring to ensure that all Counties complete the 2017/2018 feedback form - MB
- Introduction of a Ladies Competition in the Clay Pigeon Shooting – working with Chelsea Bun Club for sponsorship – MB & SW
- Two forms of ID will be required for Tug of War Competitions – MB
- Training Courses for Judges/Recorders for Tug of War Competitions to be publicised - ALL
- Secure Judges for Northern & Southern Public Speaking Competitions – MB
- Write to Compere for the Pantomime Competition – North and South – MB
- Approach NODA Judges – North, South and Final - MB
- Child Licences – MB to work with Cath Sykes
- Sponsorship for Trophies, Programme – Pantomime – MB & SW
- Raffle Prizes – All
- Darts – 1 dart competition around the board ALL
- Disco Dancing & Jump Rope – Demonstrations – MB
- Sending out Request for Judges to County Offices – MB
- Dream Machine Patent/Copyright – Wording for next meeting – MB/JCE
- Secure Venues for 2018 Competitions – MB
- Update Linear Stockjudging Cards – Holstein UK – MB
- Health and wellbeing of members at Competitions – drinks, food, sun creams etc – MB Jodie Green
- Promote RHS at Spring Festival Malvern
- Sheep Shearing all Competitors at every level must have their Blue Seal Certificate – All
- Risk Assessments – MB & JCE
- Videos of Public Speaking – MB & MC
- E Tickets for Tenbury, Great Yorkshire and Malvern – MB
- Counties to look at their Calendars re timing of competitions – ALL
- All rules to have the new YFC header on them – MB & LH
- Approved Rules to be circulated to County Offices – MB & LH
- More work to be carried out on After Dinner, Workshop Skills, Choir, Performing Arts, Workshops Skills, Auctioneering – MB & LH

11. **Summary of Council to Note**

- New website design for Competitions - encourage members to refer to for rules and guidelines.
- Committee reviewed the Competition Finals since the last meeting and comments noted.
- Clay Pigeon shooting to work with the Chelsea Bun Club to hold a Ladies Competition within the existing competition.
- Other Steering Groups to feedback their suggestions for Competitions Day 2018.
- Please remind your parents and supporters about their Behaviour at competitions which forms part of the rules.
- Extra form of ID in addition to membership cards will be requested for Tug of War Competitions.
- Tug of War Training Course for Judges/Recorders - please encourage past members to apply to ensure the future of our Competitions.
- Pembrokeshire Cookery team were thanked for taking part in the Cookery Theatre at the Malvern Autumn Festival.
- County Monitoring – Counties are reminded to submit their figures for 2017/2018. For 2016/2017 not enough Counties had returned their forms the data we are using was based on the National Finals.
- Rules for 2017-2018 Competitions now commenced.

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- Remind teams that there will be an admission charge for the Disco Dancing and Cheerleading performances on the Sunday afternoon at Annual Convention for their supporters.
- To work with the Youth Form and ensuring that our member's wellbeing is addressed with regard to water, food etc. art Tug of War and other Competitions at County, Area and Finals.
- To note that the draft rules for the 2018/2019 Competitions will be circulated to Counties for discussion and feedback to be received at the February meeting.
- To note that sheep shearing competitors at all levels must have the 'Blue Seal' recognised certificate in order to take part.
- To that the Committee will be working the with National Junior Pig club to help with pig stockjudging.
- Judges and Stewards suggestions required for Public Speaking and Stockjudging Competitions.
- That from 2019 – 2023 the National Final of the Tug of War – Men's, Ladies and GENSB will be held at Tenbury Show as per their tender document.

12. **Summary of Council to Approve**

- N/A

13. **Summary of Council to report**

- N/A

14. **Items taken forward to February meeting**

- Areas to discuss taking out the Northern and Southern Regional Finals of the Public Speaking – which would mean only 7 teams at the Final – one team per Area this would affect the Northern and South West Area in particular.
- Areas to discuss the weight limit for the ladies Tug of War from 580 down to 560 to run in line with other competitions.

Signed .....

**Rachel Parker (Competitions Chair)**

Dated:.....

17<sup>th</sup> February, 2018

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