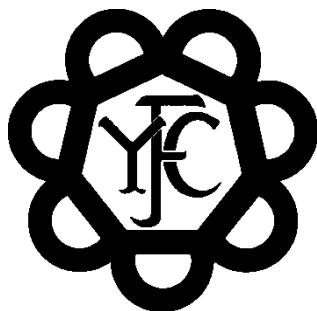


HEREFORDSHIRE FEDERATION OF YOUNG
FARMERS' CLUBS



71st ANNUAL COUNTY HEDGING MATCH
2021-22

on

Sunday 30th January 2022

at

Clearbrook Farm, Pembridge, Herefordshire, HR6 9HL

COMPETITION RULES

End of Year Trophies



Hereford Times Efficiency Shield

The overall results will count towards the Efficiency Shield – this is the overall competitions trophy for the year



The NFU Trophy

The overall results will count towards the NFU Trophy for Agricultural Competitions (except Stockjudging) for the year



The CL Coxon

Overall Intermediate Competitions Cup for the year

Awards on the Day:

- The Club gaining the highest marks in **Classes 1, 2 and 3** will be awarded the ***Agricultural Valuers Association Trophy***.
- The ***Pencombe Agricultural Society Cup*** will be awarded to the Club gaining the highest marks in **Class 3**.
- The ***Leslie Price Perpetual Challenge Cup*** for the Best Laid Hedge of the Day, presented to the best laid hedge across all classes. (New Cup for 2020).

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES

Please read carefully and follow instructions clearly in order to avoid any mistakes or confusion.

a) Closing date for entries to be received at the County Office is:

9pm on MONDAY 10TH JANUARY 2022. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

We realise that some of the names on your form may change after this date. Providing the changes are notified to the competition steward this will cause no problem.

b) All competing members must have a **VALID CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CARD INCLUDING A PHOTO**. If new membership cards are required, the authorised membership forms must be received by the County Office no later than the deadline date above, along with the Entry Forms. Please note that all membership forms received at the office must be signed by the member, as well as a Parent/Guardian if under 18 and must be signed and dated by the authorised Club Officer.

c) Two sets of schedules are usually enclosed for each Club. A booklet set is for the Club Secretary's reference and the A4 stapled set is for dismantling and passing on rules to the competing members, you may need to copy extra.

d) One entry form is enclosed per Club. This is for completion and to be returned to the County Office by the deadline, you can make a copy for your records in the back of the booklet copy where the entry form is included or please ask for a spare form to fill in. You can also complete an online copy from email or the website.

All rules and entry forms are emailed to Club Chairmen and Secretaries in advance and can be posted out if not collected from the Office by a Club Representative.

e) Any trophies relating to this competition held by any Club member must be returned to the County Office by the above deadline date, along with the entry form.

f) Please make sure all competitors are aware of the competition rules and times.

g) **HELPING MEMEBRS WITH ADDITIONAL PHYSICAL or LEARNING REQUIREMENTS.** HFYFC seeks the inclusion of the full membership in its endeavours. Should a member require assistance to compete at a County Final due to any additional physical or learning requirements, every effort shall be made to ensure inclusion of any member with dignity, respect and confidentiality. HFYFC requests prior knowledge of assistance required in order to maximize the benefit to the individual.

h) **ALL GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE RELATING TO COVID-19 AT THE TIME OF THE COMPETITON WILL BE ADHERED TO. ANY COMPETITOR NOT FOLLOWING THE GUIDANCE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COMPETE.**

HFYFC General Rules

- 1 The competitions listed herein are open to members of Herefordshire Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (HFYFC) holding a valid, current YFC membership card. (Valid is classed as being of the correct year, having a signature and passport photograph of the member attached to the card.)
- 2 Any member who fails to produce a valid membership card will be able to purchase a temporary membership card from the office on the day, provided they are already a member. The card will cost £5 and will only be valid for the purpose of entering competitions on the day. Failure to produce a valid membership card will mean that the member will be unable to compete in the competition.
- 3 Age ranges for competitions are as follows:
Senior – Open to members 28 years of age or under on 1st September 2021
Intermediate – Open to members 21 years of age or under on 1st September 2021
Junior – Open to members 16 years of age or under on 1st September 2021, and 10 years of age or over on the day of the competition.
- 4 Health and Safety requirements must be adhered to at all times.
- 5 Competitors must act in accordance with HFYFC policies, where applicable.
- 6 No alcohol is to be consumed by competitors before or during competitions. Any member judged to be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance will not be permitted to continue with the competition and may be disqualified.
- 7 The use of mobile phones during competitions is prohibited.
- 8 A white coat must be worn unless otherwise specified.
- 9 No competitor can enter the same competition in different age ranges.
- 10 All work must be that of the competitor who has booked in.
- 11 All work must have been made in the last 12 months.
- 12 Competitors must arrive on time and report to the competition steward **before** the start time of the competition to book in with necessary equipment to complete the competition.
- 13 In the event of a conflict between the competition rules and the general rules, the competition rules will govern.
- 14 All staged items must remain the responsibility of the competitor. Neither HFYFC nor the site host accepts any liability for loss, damage or theft of any item.
- 15 No staged items or exhibits can be removed before prize giving at the penalty of disqualification.
- 16 For entries not according to schedule, 25% of marks awarded will be deducted. This includes any exhibits oversize.
- 17 The Chief Steward and Competitions Chairman reserve the right to cancel or amend any competition or rule at any time.
- 18 In all competitions the decision of the Chief Steward and the Competitions Chairman will be **final**.
- 19 Unacceptable behaviour by competitors or supporters which brings YFC into disrepute; or which may be deemed to adversely affect other competitors/performers will be penalised. This includes maintaining a respectful attitude towards all judges, stewards, officers and any other event helpers.

HFYFC Hedging Match 2021-22 Timetable

Class	Competitions	
1	U28 Unaided Singles	9am sign in
2	U28 Unaided Pairs	9am sign in
3	U21 Unaided Pairs	9am sign in
4	U28 Aided Pairs	9am sign in

INFORMATION FOR CLUBS & COMPETITORS:

Please confirm if you require training on the Entry Form where indicated. If there is sufficient interest County will look into the possibility of providing some training.

IMPORTANT RULE INFORMATION TO BE ADHERED TO:

COMPETITORS WANTING TO USE CHAINSAWS CAN ONLY DO SO IF THEY PRODUCE A VALID CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCE ON THE DAY. A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE CERTIFICATE IS NOT SUFFICIENT! COMPETITORS USING CHAINSAWS MUST WEAR ALL NECESSARY SAFETY CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT.

HELPERS IN CLASS 4 WANTING TO USE CHAINSAWS CAN ONLY DO SO IF THEY PRODUCE A VALID CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCE ON THE DAY. A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE CERTIFICATE IS NOT SUFFICIENT! HELPERS USING CHAINSAWS MUST WEAR ALL NECESSARY SAFETY CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Class 1 Under 28 Singles (unaided)

Time: 9am

Entries: Open to unlimited members 28 years of age or under on 1st September 2021 and 10 years of age or over on the day of the competition.

Marks:	Back	20
	Stake	20
	Pleach	20
	Heather	20
	Finish	20
	Total	100

Rules:

- 1 Competitors will be required to stake, pleach and heather approximately 6 metres.
- 2 Competitors in this class MAY NOT receive ANY assistance.

Awards: The Club gaining the highest marks in **Classes 1, 2 and 3** will be awarded the Agricultural Valuers Association Trophy

Class 2 Under 28 Pairs (unaided)

Time: 9am

Entries: Open to unlimited entries of TWO members per Club 28 years of age or under on 1st September 2021 and 10 years of age or over on the day of the competition.

Marks:	Back	20
	Stake	20
	Pleach	20
	Heather	20
	Finish	20
	Total	100

Rules:

- 1 Competitors will be required to stake, pleach and heather approximately 8 metres.
- 2 Competitors in this class MAY NOT receive ANY assistance.

Awards: The Club gaining the highest marks in **Classes 1, 2 and 3** will be awarded the Agricultural Valuers Association Trophy.

Class 3 Under 21 Pairs (unaided)

Time: 9am

Entries: Open to unlimited entries of TWO members per Club 21 years of age or under on 1st September 2021 and 10 years of age or over on the day of the competition.

Marks:	Back	20
	Stake	20
	Pleach	20
	Heather	20
	Finish	20
	Total	100

Rules:

- 1 Competitors will be required to stake, pleach and heather approximately 8 metres.
- 2 Competitors in this class MAY NOT receive ANY assistance.

Awards: The Club gaining the highest marks in **Classes 1, 2 and 3** will be awarded the Agricultural Valuers Association Trophy.

The Pencombe Agricultural Society Cup will be awarded to the Club gaining the highest marks in **Class 3**.

Class 4 Under 28 Pairs (aided)

Time: 9am

Entries: Open to unlimited entries of TWO members per Club 28 years of age or under on 1st September 2021 and 10 years of age or over on the day of the competition.

Marks:	Back	20
	Stake	20
	Pleach	20
	Heather	20
	Finish	20
	Total	100

Rules:

- 1 Competitors will be required to stake, pleach and heather approximately 6 metres.
- 2 Competitors in this class MAY receive assistance.
- 3 Any helpers providing assistance in this class will be required to book in on the day, and will be required to produce a valid certificate of competence. Failure to produce a certificate will mean that they cannot provide assistance.

Awards: None

COMPETITION RULES

- a. Stakes will be provided by the hosts – **this is to be confirmed.**
- b. Heatherings are to be supplied by competitors.
- c. Lengths of hedge to be completed are subject to change on the day, depending on the number of entries and length of hedge available.
- d. Any competitor or team who starts to hedge MUST complete their given length
- e. Clubs withdrawing a competitor or competitors MUST give 7 days notice of their intention to withdraw. Competitors/teams withdrawn with less than 7 days notice shall be penalised by a fine of £10.
- f. Prizes will be awarded as noted in the Trophies section above and, in addition to those prizes, marks will be awarded to the County Efficiency Shield at the rate of 100 for the highest score, reducing by 10 marks down to 10th position. An extra 10% of the marks will be added on for entering.
- g. The Federation will not hold itself responsible for any deviation from the schedule owing to weather conditions or other circumstances beyond its control.
- h. The Federation reserves the right to withhold any prizes if there are insufficient entries or merit in any class.
- i. All disputes will be settled by the committee, whose decision will be FINAL. Any objection must be lodged with the Chief Steward in writing on the day of the Match, together with a fee of £5, which will be forfeited to the funds if the objection is deemed frivolous.
- j. Competitors in Classes 1, 2 and 3 may not receive assistance from anybody, including stewards. Those who are felt not to be competent without assistance will be moved to class 4, at the discretion of the Chief Steward.
- k. Height of finished hedge to be stated on the day of the match
- l. The Chief Steward may, at his/her discretion, remove any obstacle with a chainsaw.
- m. **COMPETITORS WANTING TO USE CHAINSAWS CAN ONLY DO SO IF THEY PRODUCE A VALID CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCE ON THE DAY. A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE CERTIFICATE WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT! COMPETITORS USING CHAINSAWS MUST WEAR ALL NECESSARY SAFETY CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT.**
- n. **HELPERS IN CLASS 4 WANTING TO USE CHAINSAWS CAN ONLY DO SO IF THEY PRODUCE A VALID CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCE ON THE DAY. A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE CERTIFICATE WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT! HELPERS USING CHAINSAWS MUST WEAR ALL NECESSARY SAFETY CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT.**
- o. **ALL GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE RELATING TO COVID-19 AT THE TIME OF THE COMPETITION WILL BE ADHERED TO. ANY COMPETITOR NOT FOLLOWING THE GUIDANCE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COMPETE.**