

## HFYFC GENERAL RULES

### **These General Rules are to be adhered to for all HFYFC Competitions**

1. The competitions listed herein are open to members of Herefordshire Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (HFYFC) holding a valid, current YFC membership. (Valid is classed as being fully processed and authorised and of the current year, a copy of the card can be a printed copy or electronic version shown on a device.)
2. Failure to produce a fully processed and authorised valid membership 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 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024
  - Intermediate – Open to members 21 years of age or under on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024
  - Junior – Open to members 16 years of age or under on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024, 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 the 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. Alcohol will also not be used or displayed in any competition (unless specified in the competition rules). Empty bottles can be used for display purposes only.
7. The use of mobile phones by competitors during competitions is prohibited.
8. A white coat must be worn where specified.
9. No competitor can enter the same competition in different age ranges.
10. All work must have been made by members in the last 12 months.
11. All work must be that of the competitor who has booked in, if the entry is being booked in by somebody else then the person booking it in must have a copy of the competitor's card.
12. The entry to a competition cannot have been entered into a previous HFYFC competition.
13. Club or County names must not be displayed on any part of entries or displays (unless otherwise stated in the specific competition rules) – *please be careful when using photographs including club tops.*
14. Where more than one entry per club is allowed in a competition, where applicable, only the points of the highest scoring entry will count towards the cups and trophies and overall results.
15. 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.
16. In the event of a conflict between the competition rules and the general rules, the competition rules will govern.
17. All staged items or exhibits must remain the responsibility of the competitor. Neither HFYFC nor the site host accepts any liability for loss, damage or theft of any item.
18. No staged items or exhibits can be removed before prize giving, at penalty of disqualification.
19. The Chief Steward and the Competitions Chairmen reserve the right to cancel or amend any competition rule at any time.
20. In all competitions the decision of the Chief Steward and the Competitions Chairmen will be final.
21. Unacceptable behaviour or questionable material 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.

## **Deductions**

### **22. Late entries**

- a. Any entry received by the County Office after the date and time specified on the rules for the competition, will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, and the decision will come from the County Chairman and Competitions Chairman, on whether they can compete and if any deductions will apply to the club's score.
- b. The member partaking in the competition is still eligible to get a prize card and compete at the next round.
- c. The deduction will occur after the prize cards have been written out. The deduction will apply to any trophy handed out on the day, overall day scores and the end of year trophies.

### **23. Entry of classes where no entry was originally planned**

- a. If a club wishes to enter a competition or class for which the club has not submitted an entry to the County Office prior to the date and time specified on the rules, they must request this from the Competitions Chairman or the Chief Steward if on the day of the competition. The Competitions Chairman or Chief Steward have the right to refuse entry to the class as judging time, resources or the schedule may not make this possible. If agreed, the member or club may compete in the class. If their score puts them in contention for a prize card the member may receive the prize card and also are eligible to compete at the next round if appropriate. However, their score will not be counted towards any trophies awarded on the day of the competition or the end of year trophies.

### **24. For entries not according to schedule**

- a. 25% of marks awarded will be deducted for all entries that are not according to the schedule - This includes any exhibits oversize, missing items (recipe/photos etc). If there are multiple things wrong with the entry, there will only be one deduction of 25% applied.
- b. 25% is deducted from the total score given by the judge, but if they still place after a deduction is awarded the Competitor will still be eligible to gain a prize card with the deducted score and will still be eligible to qualify for the next rounds where applicable.

### **25. In competitions with time limits**

- a. In competitions with time limits, the following marks will be deducted if the competitor overruns - (unless otherwise stated in rules – i.e., stock judging):

<b>Competition Length</b>	<b>Penalty</b>
Up to 30 minutes	5% of total marks per minute or part thereof
31 to 60 minutes	5% of total marks per two minutes or part thereof
61 to 120 minutes	5% of total marks per five minutes or part thereof
121 minutes and over	5% of total marks per ten minutes or part thereof

- b. The Competitor will still be eligible to gain a prize card with the deducted score and will still be eligible to qualify for the next rounds where applicable.
- c. 5% is deducted from the total score given by the judge.

26. Any disagreements from clubs/competitors about markings or deductions must be made on the day of competition to the Chief Steward or Competitions team, and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

27. In the event that a deduction is applied for any reason and the subsequent mark results in a decimal place, if the decimal place is 0.5 or above, it shall be rounded up to the next whole number. If the decimal place is 0.49 or below, it shall be rounded down to the next whole number.