

Newsclip 2025



Together we're growing something special.

Published by British Wool



Welcome To Newsclip 2025

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Chairman's Welcome



Chairman's Welcome



As we gear up for this year's competition season, it's worth reflecting on the successes of last year.

The feedback we received from competitor forums highlighted the excellent quality of the sheep and judging across all disciplines. This is a testament to the skill and dedication of our Judges and everyone involved in sourcing sheep and organising competitions. A huge thank you goes to the farmers who provide sheep for these events. They are an essential sponsor, though often overlooked.

A Reminder that all the people involved in running these competitions do so voluntarily. Without their hard work and commitment, shearing competitions simply wouldn't happen.

Last year, I had the opportunity to attend some shows I hadn't visited in years. It was fantastic to see these events running so smoothly, thanks to the efforts of so many.

We also witnessed some incredible World Record shearing achievements last year, including the first British 9-hour Ewe record under the new wool weight guidelines. Congratulations to Meirion Evans, Nick Greaves, and Una Cameron, along with their teams, on their remarkable accomplishments. A full report on their records will appear later in this issue of Newsclip.

A special congratulations also to Nick Greaves on being named the BISCA Shearing Personality of the Year 2024. For anyone wishing to nominate a candidate for the 2025 award, please submit your nominations by October.

This year is a qualifying year for the next World Shearing and Woolhandling Championships, which will be held in Masterton, New Zealand, from 4th-7th March 2026. I wish all competitors from every country the very best in their qualifying efforts.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to British Wool for their continued support of BISCA, and to Richard Schofield and Emma Jagger for everything they do behind the scenes. Best of luck to everyone competing this season — I look forward to catching up with you all.

Andy Barratt
BISCA Chairman

Richard's Comments



After a busy and successful year of shearing courses, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the venues and shearing instructors across the UK.

Your dedication and hard work have been instrumental in ensuring these courses run smoothly, contributing significantly to the industry by training shearers for the UK clip in the years ahead.

This year has seen remarkable achievements, including three records—two World Records and one BISCA Record. Additionally, 34 BISCA shearing competitions were held across the UK, made possible by the tireless efforts of volunteers who ensured their success.

Shearing courses have thrived across all four home nations, and I'm pleased to see our support extending to overseas courses as well. With over 850 shearers attending courses, it's encouraging to see such strong participation.

A special thanks to British Wool for supporting the YFC by offering a 50% discount on Machine and Blade shearing courses, which have been well attended across the four nations. YFC members can continue to benefit from this discount, provided they register with their

regional representatives between 1st January and 31st March 2025 while maintaining their YFC membership.

It's also worth highlighting the Highfield certificates issued to participants achieving Silver and Gold seals. These certificates recognise the British Wool Seal as a land-based qualification, providing significant value beyond the shearing industry. Many shearers have noted how this credential enhances their CVs and opens job opportunities internationally.

The WCOWM competition saw a 100% attendance rate for the third consecutive year, with 10 competitors representing their countries at the final held during the Royal Welsh Shearing Competition.

Looking ahead, the Six Nations competitions will take place as usual, with Blade Shearing in France, Wool Handling in the Republic of Ireland, and Machine Shearing at the Royal Highland Show.

Richard's Comments



As 2025 is a qualifying year for selecting teams to compete in the World Championships in Masterton, New Zealand, in March 2026, I'd like to wish the very best to all competitors, organisers, and judges. Your efforts are invaluable in ensuring these competitions run smoothly.

2024 marked a significant milestone with the BISCA AGM and the British Wool AGM, held together over two days for the first time in recent memory. This joint event, while initially unplanned, allowed members to attend both AGMs in one visit. Following consultation, it was decided to trial this format, and the feedback has been encouraging.

A heartfelt thank you to Lister Shearing for their long-standing support of the Personality of the Year award, now renamed the BISCA Personality

of the Year. Congratulations to Nick Greaves, the first recipient of this newly renamed award — I look forward to celebrating future BISCA personalities.

Finally, congratulations to Andrew Barratt, re-elected as Chairman of BISCA for a second term, and to Tom Dunne, elected as Vice Chair.

Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to the shearing industry.

Richard Schofield
British Wool Shearing Manager



Welcome To Newsclip



2025 marks 75 years since British Wool was established to collectively market the UK wool clip. We have seen many changes in the industry over the last 75 years, not all for the positive, but one constant has been the importance of shearing.

Your skill underpins animal welfare and ensures that the wool we handle is well-shorn and presented. On behalf of British Wool's 35,000 members, I thank the shearers and wool handlers across the four nations for their hard work and dedication.

British Wool remains committed to supporting the UK shearing industry. More than 850 trainees attended a British Wool course in 2024 and we have scheduled more than 100 courses in 2025. Our experienced team of instructors support beginners, who may never have handled a sheep before, through to advanced shearers looking to refine their technique.

British Wool was delighted to support three successful shearing records last year. Staffordshire-based shearer Nick Greaves, Scottish shearer Una Cameron, and Welsh shearer Meirion Evans each raised the bar. Congratulations all on your excellent achievements.

Demand for British Wool is strengthening, and we saw a significant improvement in the market through the second half of 2024. Prices need to recover further, farmers need to receive more for their wool, but the industry is finally seeing a return to more sustainable prices.

The improved demand has been underpinned by British Wool's licensee scheme. We've seen significant growth in the number of brands and manufacturers specifying British wool for their products. We increased the number of licensee partners to more than 170 through 2024.

British Wool is also working to build consumer awareness for wool in general and for British wool in particular. Recent marketing initiatives includes a Shaun the Sheep carpet promotion in collaboration with the Campaign for Wool. This is intended to promote wool carpets to consumers with 2,000 retailers across rolling out Shaun the Sheep point-of-sale materials to educate consumers about the natural benefits of wool.

We remain committed to driving demand for British wool and working with brands, manufacturers, and processors to achieve better returns for all sheep farmers in the UK.

May I wish you all a successful shearing season, especially those competing for a place in the teams for the 2026 World Championships in New Zealand.

Andrew Hogley
British Wool CEO

Shearing Profile

Beca Jackson



“I always knew I wanted to travel and work in the shearing industry. I was brought up in a shearing family and although I think it’s in your blood, I’m glad that I went to university. It gave me confidence and made me a very independent woman.”

My name is Beca Jackson, I’m 23 years old and I’m from Bethesda, North Wales.

When I left school at 16 I had no idea what career path to take. I ended up going to Glynllifon Agriculture Collage for 2 years to study Agriculture. I then went on to Aberystwyth University for 3 years to study Agriculture, where I graduated in 2023, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture.

I started competing in the wool handling competitions back in 2016 at the Royal Welsh show. I was fortunate to win the wool handling at the Eryri Young Farmers rally, which meant representing the county at the Royal Welsh show. I have also competed with the blades and won the novice competition at the Royal Welsh Show when I was 16 yrs old.

My dad, Elfed Jackson is my inspiration. He has been competing for over 40 years, as a machine shearer and a successful blade shearer. He has been a member of the Welsh Shearing Team since 1998 and has represented

Wales at 11 World Championships. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity from a very young age to travel and support him at so many shows here in the UK and world wide.

For the past few years I have been Woolhandling in Norway, Denmark, Scotland, England and New Zealand along with some lambing work in the spring. When I return home late spring, I will do some lambing work, before the shearing season starts again.

I look forward to competing in shearing competitions and catching up with “the shearing family” once again.

My hobbies include horse riding, playing netball and rugby. I enjoy attending social events and I am a member of Dyffryn Ogwen, Young Farmers Club for which I am grateful for that very first opportunity to compete in the Wool handling. It has played a big part in my career and shaped my future in the Shearing and Wool handling Industry.



60 seconds with Ed Gingell



FACT FILE

Birthday: 4th December 1984

Hometown: Horam, East Sussex

Farming Background: Farming sheep and cattle, shearing run from May- Oct and a pregnancy scanning round

Competition Achievements:
Won the Senior Circuit, came 3rd in the Open Circuit, won Devon Lamb and Southern Shears Open

What motivated you to become a sheep shearer?

Whenever I saw a sheep being shorn I was always in awe of the shearer and just wanted to do it myself.

At what age did you start shearing?

20.

What/who has been your inspiration?

Paul Griffiths, my Dad's shearer took me on and got me started. I then was driven by Mick Cutting who I used to listen to, about his career in shearing and who he'd shorn with and against in competitions. His encouragement and positivity just gave me more and more of a drive to get better and better.

3 most important things for a shearer?

Be on time, go hard, start every sheep with a fresh head, no matter how much the one before kicked your butt.

Best piece of advice you've been given?

I was always told to go and do some seasons in New Zealand, I didn't and it's the biggest regret of my career!

What Countries has shearing taken you too?

England. I travelled to NZ for a holiday with my wife and sheared 700 odd sheep for Willy Mcscimming.

60 seconds with Ed Gingell



What is your biggest highlight?

For me, so many. I won the Senior Circuit in 2015, sheared 606 ewes in 2016, sheared 775 lambs last year, competed in a few Open Finals and won a couple and managed to shear for my County in some development tests.

What was your worst moment?

There have been some competitions I've messed up and wished I'd never gone.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

I would love to be shearing still, feeling fit and still enjoying the hard craft and competitions.

Why do you like competing at shows?

Because I've never travelled, I've only ever shorn with who I've employed or worked.

with in Sussex. The competitions gave me something to work towards and before so many videos were accessible on social media, it was a really good place to see the very best in the job. I would go home just itching to get back on the board and try out what I'd seen!

Ambitions for the future?

I just want to keep doing what I'm doing and ENJOY it. I don't make big plans with shearing, just take each year as it comes and see where it takes me.

What do you do for fun/relax?

Shearing comps are my summer hobby and in the winter I try and do a bit of shooting. But most of all the family takes my spare time!

British Wool Shearing Courses 2025

British Wool is the approved provider for shearing and wool handling training in the UK, with a program designed to support candidates of all abilities in learning and developing a traditional rural skill.

British Wool courses are recognised across the world and tailored to individual levels of ability – from an absolute beginner (Blue Seal) to advanced stage (Gold Seal), and now including our newly developed (Platinum Seal). Course content is designed to achieve several individual objectives - from shearing your flock more efficiently and effectively, to building foundations for career entry opportunities, to supporting entry at global competitions of the highest standards.



You can book your course by scanning the QR code, going online at <https://www.britishwool.org.uk/book-online> or contact your regional coordinator for more information:

England, Scotland & Wales

Contact: Emma Jagger • T: 01274 688666 • E: emmajagger@britishwool.org.uk

Northern Ireland

Contact: Jayne Harkness-Bones • T: 02894 462131 • E: jayneharkness-bones@ulsterwool.com

Shearing training

Courses are available throughout the UK, led by a team of registered and highly experienced instructors, generally delivered over a 2 day period during the shearing season. British Wool also delivers bespoke training courses for gangs at your premises, focusing on improving specific skills within your team.

For all courses, you will need to bring a handpiece in good running order and sufficient clean combs and cutters. Appropriate clean clothing must be worn.

Blade shearing

Learn how to prepare and maintain your blades for optimum efficiency and shear your sheep in line with best practice industry techniques.

Wool handling

Learn how to handle, prepare and pack your clip to the highest standards, achieving the best possible price for your wool. This course can be completed in one day.

Masters List

Master Shearers

Tom Wilson

George Bayne

John Ivor Davies

John TL Davies

Robert Bull

Arwyn Jones

Alan Derryman

Colin MacGregor

Steve Lloyd

Willie Jones

John Grant

Nicky Beynon

Wyn Jones

Doug Lambie

Hywel A Jones

Kieron McCullough

Gavin Mutch

Hamish Mitchel

Tom Kennedy

Gareth Daniel

Ivan Scott

Richard Jones

Adam Berry

Jack Robinson

Gareth LI Evans

Master Blade Shearers

Dan Kelleher

Elfed Jackson

George Mudge

Patrick Moran

Gareth Owen

Pat Corrigan Snr

Andy Wear

Master Wool Handler

Bronwyn Tango

Hilary Bond

Aled W Jones

Alison McNeill MBE

Meinir Evans

Gwenan Paewai

Angharad Jones

Rosie Keenan



The Worshipful Company of Woolmen

We look forward again to the Worshipful Company of Woolmen Junior Circuit which always proves to be one of the spectacles of the year with ten qualifiers competing in the finals at the Royal Welsh for the coveted title of Worshipful Company of Woolmen Junior Circuit Champion. We ask you to get behind the Junior competitors by encouraging and guiding them to take part in the Junior competitions.

For eligibility details please read below:

1. The competition is for Junior Shearers to be run at five Agricultural Shows: Royal Ulster, Royal Highland, Great Yorkshire, Royal Welsh and the Royal Bath & West.
2. The Shows are asked not to run a separate competition but for it to be part of their own Junior Competition.
3. The Final to be run at the Royal Welsh, the last Show of the season.
4. For competitors to be eligible for the prizes they must be:
 - a) Under 26 years of age on the 1st May 2025 (Young Farmers Qualification).
 - b) As at the same date hold a Wool Board qualification of a Blue or Bronze Seal and not reached Silver Seal. This can be checked with Wool Board Office Records.
 - c) A native of the show concerned e.g. a Scotsman at the Royal Highland, with the exception of the Great Yorkshire where the competitor can come from anywhere in the UK. Overseas competitors including the Republic of Ireland are not eligible.
 - d) Only to have shorn in the UK.
5. At each of the five shows, two prizes to be given based on their marks – a first prize of £100 cash and a Bronze medal plus a voucher to attend a further Wool Board Course and a second prize of £50 and a voucher.

6. Only the two prize winners from each Show to compete in the Final. 10 competitors in total to be run as two heats of five and one final of five.
7. Five sheep to be shorn in the Final – the sheep to be at least 12 months old and fully fleeced.
8. Judging rules to be the same as for normal Junior Competitions.

Prizes for the final to be as follows:

1 st	£350 & Silver Medal
2 nd	£250 & Bronze Medal
3 rd	£200
4 th	£175
5 th	£125

The remaining five competitors to be given £100 each.

2024 Final Results:

1 st	Tom Sutcliffe - England
2 nd	Alister Crowford - Northern Ireland
3 rd	James Gregory - England
4 th	William Thorne - England
5 th	Tom Chamley - England

The cash prizes are funded by the Worshipful Company of Woolmen's Charity. The winner receives the Robert Camac Award. Robert Camac was Master of the Worshipful Company of Woolmen in 1976. The Company is one of the City of London Livery Companies and promotes wool in all its stages and uses. You can find out more about it on <https://www.woolmen.com>.



The Worshipful Company of Woolmen

Agricultural Shows 2025. Draft summary of planned Woolmen programme:

Balmoral Show, Northern Ireland 14th - 17th May

Our Master Mr David Hopkins will be at the show in the afternoon of the 15th May and all day on the 16th leaving on the 17th May.

Prize and medals to be awarded (times approximate).

Junior Shearing
2 Shearers selected to go forward to the Royal Welsh Show Junior Shearing finals.
1st £100 2nd £50

Novice Wool Handling £200

Bath and West Show, Shepton Mallet 29th - 31st May

Our Master Mr David Hopkins will be at the show on the 1st June.

Intermediate Shearing - Bronze Medal
1st £100 2nd £75 3rd £50
4th £30 5th £25 6th £20 - Best pen £45

Junior Shearing - Bronze medal
1st £100 plus BWMB Training Voucher
2nd £50 plus BWMB Voucher

Royal Highland Show, Edinburgh 19th - 22nd June

Junior Shearing - Bronze medal
1st £100 plus BWMB Voucher
2nd £50 plus BWMB Voucher

Great Yorkshire Show, Harrogate 8th - 11th July

Our Master Mr David Hopkins will attend on the 9th July. Past Master Andrew Dawson plans to attend supported by liverymen Robert Allan and others.

Tuesday:
Juniors - Bronze Medal - Open
1st £125 2nd £80 3rd £65
4th £50 5th £35 6th £20

Qualifying Junior Winner local for Welsh show
1st £100 plus BWMB Voucher
2nd £50 plus BWMB Voucher

Intermediate - Bronze Medal
1st £180 2nd £90 3rd £75
4th £60 5th £45 6th £30

Wednesday:
Ladies Open shearing - Bronze Medal
1st £180 2nd £90 3rd £75
4th £60 5th £45 6th £30

A combined Woolmen/Staple lunch for approximately 25 people is being held on Wednesday.

Royal Welsh Show, Llanellwedd 21st - 24th July

Monday:
Woolhandling Class 15 - Novices
Total prize money £285

Young Farmers Welsh County Team
2 Bronze medals

Junior Welsh shearing - Bronze Medal
1st £100 plus BWMB Voucher
2nd £50 plus BWMB Voucher

Tuesday:
Junior WCOW FINAL
1st £350 + WCOW Silver Medal
2nd £250 + WCOW Bronze Medal
3rd £200 4th £175 5th £125
Remaining 5 competitors £100 each

BISCA, AGM Resume, merchandise & Disciplinary note

The AGM of the British Isles Shearing Competitions Association. Held at British Wool, Wool House, Sidings Close, Canal Road, Bradford BD2 1AZ Thursday 14th November 2024.

There are currently 40 affiliated shows, at the AGM. Any new requests of affiliation will receive their first year free, after that affiliation costs will be £60 per day, and invoices will be issued in December.

Andy Barratt BISCA Chairman, with Tom Dunne as Vice-Chairman were re-elected for their second year. Richard Schofield and Emma Jagger will continue their roles as the Competitions & Publications Secretary, and Secretary & Treasurer respectively. All other committees were re-elected, please refer to the relevant Minutes for full details of these.

Current Officers:

Andy Barratt – Chairman
Tom Dunne – Vice Chairman
Richard Schofield – Competition/
Publication Secretary
Emma Jagger – Secretary/Treasurer

The next BISCA AGM will be held on Thursday 13th November 2025.

Executive Committee:

Andy Barratt (Chair), Tom Dunne (Vice Chair), Alan Derryman (E), Brendan Kelly (NI), David O'Neil (NI), Colin MacGregor (S), Willie Craig (S), George Graham (ROI), Martyn David (W), Clive Hamer (W), Lucie Gmcher (F), Julie Resneau (F), Richard Schofield (E) and John Ivor Davies (No vote - Area Judge Chair).
Andy Rankin (No vote – Records Chair).

Disciplinary Note:

Any conduct that is detrimental to the ethics of BISCA by either competitor or official shall be notified to the Disciplinary Committee in writing. The Disciplinary Committee has the right to suspend, for a period, or remove any mistruant from their respective list. **The decision of the Committee shall be FINAL.** Contact Emma Jagger by letter to British Wool, Wool House, Sidings Close, Canal Road, Bradford, BD2 1AZ or email emmajagger@britishwool.org.uk.

BISCA Judges Garments to Purchase

BISCA Shirts
80% cotton with pocket and button down collar. Ladies and gents styles.

BISCA V-Neck Sweater
Navy or grey.

BISCA V-Neck Slipover
Navy or grey.

BISCA Fleece
Navy or grey.

BISCA Ties

Please contact Emma Jagger for cost and more details.

Judges Refresher Course 2025

All Judges are reminded that **THEY MUST** attend a refresher course on an annual basis. Please contact an Area Judge to indicate which course/venue suit your agenda.

The refresher course program for 2025 will cover Machine, Blade Shearing and Wool handling.

Refresher Course Programme

England

North England

Richard Schofield T: 07966 291618
richardschofield@britishwool.org.uk
Judges Woolhandling and Shearing updates

3rd of May 2025 at 1.00pm, held at Nick Greaves' Farm, Moorleys Farm, Gayton, Staffs, ST18 0HW

4th of May 2025 at 1.00pm, held at Andrew Percy's Farm, Spring Hill, Jervaulx, Masham HG4 4PG.

South England

Date TBC, held at Matt Smiths' Farm, Trefranck Farm, St Clether, Launceston, Cornwall

Alan Derryman T: 07976 624611

4th May 2025 at 2.00pm, held at Alan Derrymans's Farm, Home Farm, Sidbury, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 0QE for shearing & wool handling.

Andy Barratt T: 07977129646
3rd of May 2025, held at Firle, Lewis, East Sussex.

Northern Ireland

6th May 2025, held at Jack Robinsons Farm, 253 Longland Road, Claudy, Co Londonderry BT47 4JE.

Republic Of Ireland

George Graham T: 00353 8725 69072
Tom Dunne T: 00353 8683 86482
Billy Donnellan T: 00353 8503 6216
30th April 2025 is an Area Judge Update held at The Glenview Hotel, Wicklow, Dublin A63 DC95.

Scotland

Andy Rankin T: 07789 904638
Date & venue TBC
Colin Macgregor T: 01567 830236/07850 188885
Date & Venue TBC

All judges are asked to introduce and encourage new names from the industry to come along.

Please contact
Andy Rankin T: 07789 904638
Colin MacGregor T: 07850 188858

Wool handling judges courses will be at Fearn farm, Midlock, and Mains of Dalrunzion
Blade shearing will be available at all except Andrew Baillies farm.

Registered Judges

Election of Area Judges

Area Judges have now defined areas. This shows each judge and the Area judge in charge of their area. Each Area Judge serves a term of three years. At the end of the term judges from within the set area will have the opportunity to re-nominate the area judge concerned or another judge of their choice. In the event of two or more nominations a vote will take place, covering the specific Nation. All nomination papers and voting papers will be sent out from the BISCA Secretary.

England

† Wool Handling Judge
◇ Referee B Blade

Area Judge - South West England

B†◇ Derryman A Home Farm, Sidbury, Sidmouth, Devon 01395 597836

Judges

B† Alford S East Week, South Zeal, Okehampton, Devon EX20 2QB 07944 056702
B Branfield J Thorndon Villa, East Worlington, Crediton EX17 4SY 07971163792
B Churchose M Bluehays, Cheriton Fitzpaine, Crediton EX17 4JQ 07989 450307
Cole G Trekernel Farm, Lewannick, Launceston, Cornwall PL15 7QX 07980 783455
B Cole R Ashridge House, Grenofen, Tavistock, Devon PL20 9EW 07889 822076
Crabb J 3 Penpont View, Five Lanes, Cornwall PL15 7RY 07715 966600
B Dallyn P Bulleigh Park, Ippledon, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 5UQ 01803 872254
B Davidson G 14 Belmont Park, Pensilva, Liskeard PL14 5QT 07899 952456
Goodfellow E Higher Silkhay Farm, Netherbury, Bridport, Dorset 01308 488275
Hawkey J Gwynorth, Convena Hill, Wadebridge PL27 6DH 07547 377908
B◇ Hocking P Tredown Farm, Bradstone, Tavistock Devon 01566 772389
B Jasper N Little Oaks, Dunterton, Tavistock PL19 0QS 07966 302661
B Labruyere D The Mowhay, Middle Hampt, Callington, Cornwall 01579 370897
† Paewai G Home Farm, Sidbury, Sidmouth, Devon 01395 597836
B◇ Marshall A School Lane Farm, Chilsworthy, Holsworthy, Devon 01409 253389
Nelmes D 1 Banqueting Hall, Cothelstone, Taunton TA4 3DT 07789 956289
B† Rottenbury R Wonham Farm, Blackdog, Crediton, Devon 01884 861302
B†◇ Ruby C East Quethiock farm, Quethiock, Liskeard 07977 512811
Sandercock M Plusha Cross, Launceston, Cornwall 01566 782926
Sandercock S Plusha Cross, Launceston, Cornwall 01566 782926
Smith M Trefranck Farm, St Clether, Launceston, Cornwall 07789 290331
B† Steer C, Oak Tree Farm, Modbury, Ivybridge PL21 0SB 07887 208122
B†◇ Stevens G Courtney Farm Cottage, Washfield, Tiverton EX16 9RE 07768 763468
B†◇ Webber P 4 Valley View, Farway, Colyton, Devon EX24 6EE 01404 871308

Registered Judges

Area Judge - South East England

B† **Barratt A** School Cottage, Tisbury Road, Fovant, Salisbury SP3 5JY **07977 129646**

Judges

Barr A 20 The Street, Firtle, Nr Lewes, East Sussex BN8 6NR **07768 867124**
Cutting J Hickmans Granary, Salts Farm, East Guildford TN31 7PA **01797 224423**
Gingell E Copford Farm, Dem Lane, Heathfield, E Sussex TN21 0PN **07986 283867**
B Hart P The Old Dairy, Slider's Lane, Fumers Green, Uckfield TN22 3RT **07717 054172**
B Morris R Badgers, Butchers Lane, Three Oaks, Hastings, TN35 4NE **07850 873363**
Parish S 1 New Farm Cottages, Froyle Lane, South Wamsborough Hants **07767 465646**
Pullin R 3 St Gabriels Close, Morecombe Lake, Bridport DT6 6DP **07555 098028**

Area Judge - Northern England

B† **Schofield R** Brookside Cottage, Grunsagill, Tosside, Skipton **07966 291618**

Judges

B Bell A Scarth Lees, Swainby, Northallerton, N Yorkshire **07966 809324**
B† **Chomse C** High Lane House, Hexham NE46 2LJ **07876 476142**
B Coupland B 64 Brownlow Street, Clitheroe, Lancashire
B Corbett D Dykehead Farm, Rochester, Newcastle NE19 1RD **07821 921625**
B Dixon R Ash House, 59 The Green, Rawcliffe, Goole DN14 8QP **07860 455712**
Fox M Crosbythwaite Farm Ulpha **07831 554059**
B† **Froggatt J** Broughton in Fur Cumbria LA20 6DY **07889 411443**
Greaves K 3 Common Lane, Bednall, Stafford ST17 0SA **07970 448089**
B† **Gregory S** Moorleys Farm, Gayton, Staffordshire ST18 0HW
B **Hindmarsh R** Blakehopeburnhaugh, Otterburn, Newcastle upon Tyne **01830 520316**
Lancaster I Cold Coats Farm, Pendilton Road, Wisewell, Clitheroe **07970 885706**
Martindale M 3 Fern Croft, Casterton, Kirkby Lonsdale, Cumbria **07980 207239**
B† **Mason B** Horrocksford Farm, Clitheroe, Lancashire **07974 263375**
Murray S Stableyard Cottage, Sandhoe, Hexham, Northumberland **07724 331927**
B **Odell E** Highfield House, Docking Road, Kingslynn PE31 8RU **07817 286995**
◇ **Percy A** Springhill, Jervaulx, Masham, Ripon HG6 6PL **07812 136434**
Potter N Burton Holme Farm, Barmby Moor, York YO42 4EB **01759 303382**
Powers A Tyrells Frith Farm, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 2JN **07866 256537**
Rangeley J 99 Eversley Mount, Sherburn in Elment, Leeds LS25 6AR **07590 319589**
Read A Rowley Bank, Steal, Hexham, Northumberland NE47 0HG **01434 673552**
Spencer A Vicarage Farm, Lower Guinta, Stratford upon Avon CA37 8RY

Northern Ireland

† **Wool Handling Judge**

◇ **Referee B Blade**

Area Judge - Northern Ireland

B† **Murphy J** 21 Shanes Castle Road, Co Antrim BT41 4NE **07740 584076**
B† **O'Neill D** 182 Duncastle Road, Donemena, Co Tyrone **028 71397965**
B† **Montgomery I** 45 Church Road, Llenwherry **07740 086137**

Judges

Butler A
Butler F 77 Knockahollet Road, Dunloy, Ballymena, Co Antrim BT44 9BA
B† **Kelly G** 12 Lylehill Road East, Templepatrick, Co Antrim **07711 664100**
B **Caldwell A** 15 Burnview Road, Castleterg, Co Tyrone **028 81679319**
B **Crockett A** 21 Closemore Road, Castleterg, Co Tyrone BT81 7RF **028 81671331**
Davidson G 40 Uperstown Road, Gleno Lame BT40 3EA **07761 697437**
Davidson R 40 Uperstown Road, Gleno, Lame BT40 3EA **07790 014672**
Jones D 274 Seven Mile Straight, Nutts Corner, Crumlin BT29 4YT **028 90825976**
B **Jones W** 76 Rickamore Road, Upper Templepatrick Co Antrim **028 94432303**
B **Kelly B** 185 Magheralane Road, Randalstown, Co Antrim BT41 2PH **028 25891366**
B† **Kelly G** 32 Valley Road, Kells, Ballymena, Co Antrim BT42 2LX **028 25891813**
B† **Kelly S** 32 Valley Road, Kells, Ballymena, Co Antrim **07974 192365**
Longstaff A 7 Mains Street, Kells, Ballymena, Co Antrim BT42 3JH **07909 593681**
B† **Megahey B** 71 Ballyutoag Road, Belfast BT14 8SS **028 90825558**
Magee M Drumatoland, St Johnston, Co Donegal **086 389 5678**
Robinson J 253 Longland Road, Claudy, Co Londonderry **07933 123608**
B **Wilson B** 2 Gordonvale Drive, Lame, Co Antrim **028 28270857**

Republic of Ireland

† **Wool Handling Judge**

◇ **Referee B Blade**

Area Judge - South

† **◇** **Graham G** Ballyoughter, Gorey, Co Wexford **00353 8725 69072**

Judges

Bonham J Trumroe, Castlepollard, Co Westmeath **00353 8734 54738**
Collier R Knockrobin, Camolin, Co Wexford **00353 8722 48042**
◇ **Creedon T** Top of Coom, Kilgarvan, Co Kerry **00353 8713 24640**
Crowe H Rockview House, Delvin, Co Westmeath **00353 8776 54312**
† **Dooley S** Ballyduff, Rossrea, Co Tipperary **00353 8725 88761**
Hussey P Bracaragh, Caherdaniel, Killarney, Co Kerry **00353 8796 38648**

Registered Judges

Kelleher D	Coolnoohill, Kilgarvan, Co Kerry	00353 6466 85373
Murphy S	Drinnanstown South, Rathdangan, Co Kildare	00353 8570 61809
O'Sullivan D	Bonane, Kenmare, Co Kerry	00353 8791 19560

Area Judge – East

◇ Dunne T	Cullentra, Rathdrum, Co Wicklow	00353 8683 86482
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Judges

Bryan R	Grange Clare West, Kilmeague, Naas, Co Meath	00353 8779 42655
Burke K	Plunketstown, Castledermot, Co Kildare	00353 8723 72186
Burke P	Plunketstown, Castledermot, Co Kildare	00353 8726 70378
Burke T	Carrigeen, Baltinglass, Co Wicklow	00353 8610 17213
Corrigan A	Clough, Baltinglass, Co Wicklow	00353 8923 66043
Corrigan J	Abbey Awn, Old Kilcullen, Co Kildare	00353 8723 32310
Corrigan P	Ballysax, The Curragh, Co Kildare	00353 8637 36275
Crowe C	Rockview House, Delvin, Co Westmeath	00353 8767 75372
Heaney L	Snugboro, Donard, Co Wicklow	00353 7344 43056
Malone J	Ballincor Beg, Roundwood, Co Wicklow	00353 8682 25705
Moore H	Deerpark, Baltinglass, Co Wicklow	00353 8728 82009
Murphy J	Ballimatona, Manor Kilbride, Blessington, Co Wicklow	00353 8723 17878
Pearson T	Stratford on Slaney, Baltinglass, Co Wicklow	00353 8798 712038
◇ Potterton G	Arkill, Carbuey, Co Kildare	00353 8727 17352

Area Judge – West

†◇ Donnellan B	Temple Martin, Craughwell, Co Galway	00353 8580 36216
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Judges

Brannick S	Clooneen, Hollymount, Co Mayo	00353 2364 601
Dolan L	Shancough, Castlereia Co Roscommon	00353 8763 70351
Halloran T	Glenrague, Clonbur, Co Galway	00353 8769 51607
Hearty P	Owenwee, Westport, Co Mayo	00353 8615 67037
Joyce S	Kilbride, Finney, Co Mayo	00353 8779 92015
Kerrigan P Jnr.	Boohaun, Cloughbrack, Clunbur, Co Galway	00353 8797 80288
Kerrigan P Snr.	Boohaun, Cloughbrack, Clunbur, Co Galway	00353 8797 80288
McDonagh S	Pollinore, Tuam, Co Galway	00353 8721 09313
Stephens J	Ballinderry, Cumber, Tuam, Co Galway	00353 8734 72657

Scotland

† Wool Handling Judge

◇ Referee B Blade

Area Judge – Northern Scotland

TBA

Judges

◇ Biddington K	22 Abbey Crescent, Kinross, Morayshire IV36 3FJ	07966 510213
†◇ Donald G	Spruce Cottage, Murrial, Aberdeenshire AB52 6NU	07704 517163
† Donald K	Spruce Cottage, Murrial, Aberdeenshire AB52 6NU	07715 710987
Douglas S	Achnamoine Farm, Watten, Wick KW1 5XW	07593 437133
◇ Georgeson J	Guidibest Farm, Latheron, Wick KW5 6DQ	07887 925393
†◇ Grant J	Swiney Hill, Lybster, Caithness KW3 6BT	07752 717825
◇ McNeil G	Treeton Steading, Andersier Invermess IV27 QU	07597 912909
◇ Oliphant A	West Lyth, Lyth, Caithness	07747 842603

Area Judge – Southern Scotland

B†◇ Rankin Andrew	Edentaggart Farm, Luss, Alexandria G83 8PB	01436 860226
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B†◇ MacGregor C	Carstaan Croft, Lochearnhead, Perthshire FK19 8QE	01567 830236
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Judges

◇ Anderson D	Bamakill Farm, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8SQ	01546 602262
Andrew J	Rowanston, Maybole KA19 7PY	07711 084838
†◇ Armstrong M	Shepherds House, Butterston, Dunkeld PH8 0MP	07919 193555
Baillie A	Broomfield Lodge, Ashgill, Larkhall Lanarkshire	07971 284591
Bayen G	North Lodge, Wolflee, Bonchester Brigs, Hawick TD9 9TE	07778 906759
† Bertram L	Mains of Boquhan, Kippen, Stirling FK8 3JQ	07400 776600
†◇ Boyd W	Croftfoot, Sandysford Road, Symington, Biggar ML12 6GW	07810 183091
Brand R	Auchcaimie Cottage, Fetter-cairn Laurencekirk AB30 1ER	07724 800623
Campbell E	11 Keip Road, Strathyre, Perthshire	07967 143910
Clark D	Lee Meadow, Braidwood, Carluke ML8 4FP	07958 047964
Craig, W	Blendewing, Broughton, Biggar BL12 5SG	07984 015215
Dagg M	Craighouse Farm, Melrose TD6 9DU	07747 584705
Dickson W	Bedshiel Farmhouse, Berwickshire TD10 6UR	07977 808116
Kinstray P	Drumbeg, 2 Dreva Road, Broughton, By Biggar ML12 6HG	07872 580104
Lamb J	Rullion Green Cottage, Penicuik EH26 0PU	07887 538304
McCullough K	Achnamara, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8PU	07584 067439
Minto I	Townhead, Dolphinton, Biggar, Peebleshire EH46 7AF	07834 382747
Rowan S	98 Sound of Kintyre, Machrihanish PA28 6GA	07771 616744
◇ Shaw W	West Lethans Farm, Saline, Fife KY12 9TF	01383 732255
Simpson P	Black Craigs Farm, Glenesk, Edzelle DD7 7LY	07881 221445
◇ Stewart D	Mains of Dalrulzion, Blackwater, Blairgowrie Perthshire	07739 420308
Taylor S	Dall Farm, Ardeonaig, by Killin, Perthshire FK21 8SX	07831 284208

Registered Judges

Wales

Area Judge – North Wales

B◇ Jones H A Llwngwgan, Llangwm, Corwen LL21 0RN 07773 994306

Judges

B◇ Davies G Llech, Nebo Road, Pentrefoelas, Betws Y Coed LL24 0AT 01690 770450
 B† Hughes R Tuhwntrafon, Llanammon DC, Llangollen LL20 7LH 07950 874817
 Jackson E W Braich Ty, Nant Ffrancon, Bethesda LL57 3LZ 07771 622779
 Jackson B Braich Ty, Nant Ffrancon, Bethesda LL57 3LZ 07748 092008
 Jones A Blaen y Cwm Cerrigydrudion LL21 OSB 07837 746797
 B Jones B Blaen y Cwm Cerrigydrudion LL21 OSB 07801 355447
 Jones R Gwastad Annas, Nant Gwynant LL55 4NW 07967 191231
 Jones R Maestruan, lanelidan, Corwen LL15 2RN 07785 303530
 Jones R Tynyberllan, Penmorfa, Porthmadog LL24 0AT 01286 870749
 B Jones J T Ardd Gron, Ceunant, Caemarfon LL55 4RT 01490 420502
 ◇ Lambie D Ystrad Bach, Llangwm, Corwen LL21 0PY 07813 693316
 B Manzini A Tyn y Fron, Glanrafon, Corwen LL21 0HD 07721 717613
 Morris D Bronant, Groes, Dinbych LL165SB 07882 648599
 † Owen G Cysgod, yr, Hedog, Beddgelert LL554UY 07899 964949
 † Till R Perthi, Beddgelert LL554UU 01766 523712
 B† Till J Plas Ymwlech, Criccieth, Gwynedd LL52 0PW 01978 790464
 † Williams B Plas Onn, Pentrecelyn, Ruthin LL15 2HU 07985 285567
 Llyr R Coed Y Foel, Ucha, Bala LL23 7NR

Area Judges – South Wales

B†◇ Davies J I Oakside Farm, Golan, Presteigne LD8 2NH 07968 277781

Judges

Beavan H Skirrid Farm, Llanddewi Skirrid, Abergavenny NP7 8AP 07809 744336
 B Beynon J Bryn Ysgallog, Burry Green, Gower SA3 1HR 07970 447303
 Davies J T L Blaenlyh, Libanus, Brecon 01874 636537
 B†◇ Davies R Glan yr Afon, Llangammarch Wells, Powys 01591 620681
 B†◇ David M Forge Cottage, Picketston, Barry CF62 4QP 07815 861864
 Evans G Gelli Fam, Llanyre, Llandrindod Wells, Powys 01597 822965
 Herdman G Ty Mawr Farm, Upper Chapel, Brecon, Powys LD3 9RG 07855 502391
 Howell H Cwmbrynich, Sennybridge, Brecon, Powys LD3 8SS 07989 442525
 James E Penrhigoch, Beulah, Llanwrtyd Wells, Powys LD5 4UG 01591 610285
 † Jones A Ivy House, Walton, Presteigne, Powys 01544 350302
 Jones D K Cornel Farm, Cilmerly, Builth Wells, Powys LD2 3PB 01982 553246
 †◇ Jones T I Dolfelyn, Llanfan Fawr, Builth Wells, Powys LD2 3ND 01597 860393

† Wool Handling Judge

◇ Referee B Blade

† Paewai G Home Farm, Sidbury, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 0QE 01395 597836
 B†◇ Price R Llantrussa, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2RP 01544 350265
 Pugh B Maes y Gelli, Nantmel, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 6EL 07789 134599
 † Tango B C/o 27 Wyndham Street, Tonypandy CF40 1EP 07740 554461

Area Judges – Mid Wales

B†◇ Evans D Tynant, Talybont, Ceredigion SY24 5DN 07855 687445

Judge

B† Davies W Brynglas, Ponterwydd, Aberystwyth 01970 890259
 Davies A W Nantcarfan, Pandy, Llanbrynmair, Powys 07759 833335
 Evans G Hendre Rhys, Crosswood, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 4AT 07773 508856
 † Evans M Cwm Fran, Cil y Cwm, Carmarthenshire SA20 0TW 07970 876419
 Evans R Glanaber, Talybont, Ceredigion SY24 5DN 07790 446162
 ◇ Hamer J C Himant, Elan Valley, Rhayder LD6 5HS 01597 811413
 Hughes M Penrhyn Fawr, New Quay, Ceredigion SA45 9TX 07773 293425
 Hughes R Bryngido, Llanarth, Lampeter, Ceredigion SA47 0NU 01545 581100
 Jenkins I Ty Llwyd, Maestir, Lampeter, Ceredigion SA48 7PA 07773 764361
 Jenkins J Ty Uchaf, Trefenter, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 4HU 07970 045147
 Jones A W Ty'n Braich, Dinas Mawddwy, Machynlleth, Powys, 07813 003443
 O'Connor I Llwynidiried, Ffarmers, Llanwrda SA198JB 07779 233043
 Rees H 1 High Street, Tywyn LL36 9AA 07733 038898
 Roberts B Dolbran, Dinas Mawddwy, Machynlleth SY209LX 07971 188108
 Thomas G Tynllyn, Llanwnnen, Lampeter, Ceredigion 07980 323474

International

† Wool Handling Judge

◇ Referee B Blade

Finland

Stiina J jenni.stiina@gmail.com 035840 7522936

Germany

Muller T mueller-isert@t-online.de 0049 170 2337 709
 Gertenbach M m.gertenbach65@gmail.com 0049 151 5946 4702
 Wohlfarth N N.Wohlfarth@icloud.com 0049 172 9358 065
 Kauschus S stefger003@yahoo.de 0049 175 6070 311
 Blumelhuber R bluemelhuber.rainer@web.de 0049 160 9066 0024

All judges are reminded that THEY MUST attend refresher courses on an annual basis.



BRITISH WOOL - TRAINING AND SUPPORTING

the next generation
of shearers and
wool handlers.



World International Rules

NB: Those marked with # also relates to Wool handling.

Tallies			Daily Tallies
Novice	2 wins	As an accumulation	
Novice Blades	2 wins	As an accumulation	
Novice Wool Handling	2 wins	As an accumulation	
Junior	2 wins	In 1 season	150/200
Intermediate Wool Handling	2 wins	As an accumulation	
Intermediate	4 wins	As an accumulation	250/275
Senior	6 wins	As an accumulation	350/375

The minimum qualification of entrants in shearing competitions shall be a British Wool 'Blue Seal' or equivalent shearing qualification.

All shearers have the right to appeal in writing to BISCA. If a tally is reported to an Area Judge – the Area Judge is in a position to move person up a class. Shearers can request to put themselves up a class.

Only official BISCA judges MUST be used by competitions.

All organisers, competitors and sheep suppliers will uphold all relevant bio-security protocol currently applicable at all times.

1. **Competitors:**
 - a. # Competitors enter and compete at their own risk.
 - b. # Competitors must be suitably dressed, including footwear. The Referee will administer this ruling. They must be suitably dressed for the presentation ceremony.
 - c. # The use of drugs, intravenous fluids or oxygen is banned in all competitions. Random drug tests may be taken, and if proved positive, the competitor will pay all costs and be disqualified.
 - d. # The referee or judge has the right to switch off the machine or disqualify any competitor whose work or conduct on the shearing board is detrimental to the image of competition shearing, or Woolhandling. Referee may stop a competitor during an event if clearly not competitive time wise. (See 6. (f) also).

- e. # Any inappropriate action by a competitor and /or official that brings a competition and/or BISCA into disrepute may result in disciplinary action by BISCA. Disciplinary action may include suspension from future events for up to 30 competition days.
 - f. # Competitors may judge (if a registered BISCA Judge) at a contest where they are competing, but only in classes below in which they are participating.
 - g. # Competitors in competitions must be suitably attired and this will include footwear (i.e jandals or open sandals and caps or hats are prohibited) Earphones and iPods must not be worn while competing. The referee will administer this ruling.
2. **Competition Rules:**
 - a. # A draw for Heats will be made prior to all competitions. Finalists shall draw for stands as they take the boards.
 - b. Competitors must provide their own hand-pieces, combs, cutters and blade shears. Sharpening equipment will be made available by the Host Committee in accordance with local regulations or law.
 - c. Competitors will each be allowed two loaded hand-pieces or two blade shears which are their responsibility and no time will be allowed for stoppage caused by their hand-piece, blade shears, or sheep escaping from the competitor on the shearing board. Should any stoppages occur through the fault of the machine or through another competitor's sheep escaping, a time allowance will be made or a re-run given, only at the Board Referee and Chief Referee's discretion. The organizing Committee may allow competitors to use up to three hand-pieces in events with three or more breeds/wool types. **Blade holders should be provided by the organising committee. Blades should be placed in holders before a competitor starts shearing, between sheep and on finishing the last sheep.**
 - d. Where practical a draw for stands must be made after sheep are in the catching pens for finals. In the case of a left-handed machine shearer, that competitor's sheep will be moved to left hand stand if one is available.
 - e. Competitors may enter their pen in the presence of a Judge, to sort and inspect their sheep. Plucking of wool before and/or after time (during if by pen assistant) will incur a penalty. (See 7. (I)).
 - f. Competitors may appeal to the Referee to have any sheep they consider sub-standard replaced before the heat, quarter, semi-final or final commences. The Referee's decision is final. Any sheep rejected by the Referee must be raddled/marked and withdrawn from the entire event.
 - g. Without assistance each competitor must:
 - (i) Start and stop their machine.
 - (ii) Collect their sheep from a standing position within the catching pen, except where a ruling has been made prior to the event for safety reasons. (e.g. Scottish Blackface, where sheep may be held in a sitting position.)
 - (iii) Put each sheep out of the porthole after shearing.
 - (iv) Switch their hand-piece off between sheep.

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



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

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

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

7. Board Penalties:

- a. Second cuts – one credit card in size (85 x 55 x 10mm) equals five penalty strokes. One penalty stroke – (85 x 11 x 10mm).
- b. One penalty stroke for not breaking the neck wool on full wool fleeces.
- c. One whole penalty point per offence if pen handler lifts sheep to assist catch. (See 2. (h)).
- d. One penalty stroke per side for obvious belly wool or brisket rib not removed when shearing belly or for obvious fleece wool removed with belly.
- e. Merino skin pieces – one penalty stroke per 15mm diameter in size, or an equivalent accumulation of smaller errors.
- f. One penalty stroke for not throwing the belly wool clear.
- g. One penalty stroke for wool thrown interfering with another competitor.
- h. Three penalty strokes for first hind leg wool broken out deliberately by competitor on full wool sheep.
- i. Three penalty strokes if a shorn sheep on release breaks up fleece or carries fleece wool out porthole.
- j. Two whole points for allowing a shorn or partly shorn sheep to escape. The shearer must make a genuine effort to pen the sheep. Does not apply if sheep is properly penned and returns to shearing board.
- k. One whole point per offence for work before or after time by competitor or pen handler (and during by pen handler) for plucking, removing tassels etc. To be imposed by Board Referee in consultation with judge/s. (See 2. (e)).
- l. One whole penalty point per offence if seconds (pen handler) assists with switching machine on or off.

- m. Five whole points be imposed for rough handling of sheep per offence, Judge and Board Referee's decision in consultation.
 - n. The Board Referee is to advise scorers of any whole point penalty under 7. (m).
 - o. Five whole points to be awarded if a competitor leaves the board before the final person has finished shearing.
- ## 8. The Pen Judges:
- a. Single judging system to be used for outside pen judging. If possible, number of Judges used should divide equally into number of sheep being shorn.
 - b. The pen judges will judge shorn sheep for:
 - (i) Wool left on.
 - (ii) Cuts on sheep.
 - c. The Pen Judge must call the Referee to decide penalty for 9. (b & c) then judge the rest of that sheep.
- ## 9. Pen Penalties:
- a.
 - (i) Wool left on sheep – one credit card in size (85 x 55 x 10mm) – five penalty strokes. One penalty stroke – (85 x 11 x 10mm).
 - (ii) Skin cuts – one penalty stroke per 10mm diameter in size, or an equivalent accumulation of smaller errors.
 - (iii) A cut into flesh or muscle (not serious enough to be a full penalty of five whole points) will incur a minimum of five penalty strokes plus the cut.
 - (iv) Up to two penalty strokes per individual sock left on or up to four penalty strokes if very woolly, as decided by committee and Chief Referee. (See 5. (d)).
 - b. The Pen Referee must be consulted and a competitor will be penalised by the addition of five whole points per offence added to their calculated pen score if they:

- (i) Cut a teat and impair the breeding ability of the Ewe.
- (ii) Severely cut any sheep to the extent that it requires surgical attention. (Referee may require a minor cut to be stitched without imposing the above penalty).

- c. The Pen Referee must be consulted and a competitor will be penalised by the addition of ten whole points per offence added to their calculated pen score if they:
 - (i) Cut a hamstring
 - (ii) Cut into or through the centre of a pizzle (a pizzle graze may not necessarily incur a full penalty).
- d. If the Pen Referee deems this offence to be serious, a penalty of 10 whole points per offence will be given (added separately to the pen score). The Pen Referee will write any whole point penalties in a circle on the pen card and initial it. If the Pen Referee does not deem the offence to be serious, the pen judge will judge the cut as in 9 (a) (ii). Then add to penalty for that sheep Pen Referee may require a minor cut to be stitched without imposing the whole point penalty point.

10. Shearing Points Calculation:

Time Points.

1 point for each 20 seconds. Multiply minutes by 3. Divide seconds by 20.

Board Points.

Divide each competitor's total board strokes by number of sheep shorn.

Pen Points.

Divide total penalties by number of sheep shorn.

Add Time, Board and Pen Points together to decide competitor's score. Competitor with lowest score wins.

Scorers are to be alert for full point penalties on board and pen cards.

In the event of a tie, the competitor with the lowest score for board and pen will take precedence. If there is still a tie, the competitor with the lower pen score will take precedence. If there is still a tie, the competitor with the lower board score will take precedence.

Quality Benchmark:

A quality benchmark will not be used in both Machine and Blade shearing points calculations.

Additional Rules:

All Junior and Intermediate Shearers should be encouraged to inspect their shorn sheep immediately after finishing their heat where expert advice can be given on both judges scoring and technical expertise.

Where competitors are allowed to shear up a class, only Juniors that have qualified through from the Junior heats should be allowed to shear in Intermediate.

Any conduct that is detrimental to the ethics of BISCA by either competitor or official shall be notified to the Disciplinary Committee:

10 whole points for abusive behaviour by competitor or penman in any discipline to be applied by Judge in consultation with the referee.

The Disciplinary Committee has the right to suspend, for a period, or remove any mistruant from their respective list.

Video evidence will not be accepted for queries or disputes regarding judging decisions or related matters.

The decision of the Committee shall be FINAL.

Appeals have to be submitted in writing to the referee 15 minutes after the occurrence with a lodgement fee of £20/€20 returnable if upheld.

Blade Shearing Rules

Blade Shearing

World International Rules apply, with the following amendments for all Blade Competitions.

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

Competition	Heats	Semi-Finals	Finals
Novice	1	1	2
Intermediate	2	3	3-4
Open	3	4	5-7

- Competitors will be allowed to take two sets of blades onto the boards, which must be placed in the holder provided.
- Blades must be placed in the holder between each sheep (2 whole points per offence where this is not applied).
- Timing will stop as per machine or when Blades are placed in the holder after shearing the last sheep.
- Shorn sheep are judged on the basis of even finish of 0 to 15mm.
- If a competitor leaves the Board before the final competitor has finished shearing, 5 whole points will be awarded.



Wool Handling Rules

1. Aims and Objectives

To promote the knowledge and skill employed in good on farm handling of wool at shearing time in order to maximise the returns to the farmer and benefit the wool industry as a whole.

The wool-handling competition requires the competitor to demonstrate knowledge of appropriate handling of different wools and oddments in a highly organised manner and speed of operation.

2. Introduction

Employing a good wool-handler is generally adequately recompensed by having the job "well done". This entails following British Wool's guidelines relating to the handling and presentation of the fleece and avoiding the listed penalties, which might otherwise apply. A correctly presented fleece is more accurately and speedily assessed at the grading depot and achieves a fuller potential value. A distinction between and within our various breeds enables the different wool types to be separately packed, thus avoiding cross-contamination taking place especially with grey fibres and floating kemp.

Wool-handlers are an integral part of a team and they require to have a knowledge of shearing sequence. By having a good technique the job will appear relatively easy but when attending two or more shearers it demonstrates just how highly organised and skilled the wool-handler must be.

3. Competition Organiser Responsibilities

a. Chief Steward/Referee

- (i) The Chief Steward must be fully conversant with the procedure and running of the competition.
- (ii) The Chief Steward is responsible for the overall running of the competition.
- (iii) The Chief Steward is responsible to ensure all stewards are conversant with their individual responsibilities.
- (iv) The Chief Stewards decision will be final.

b. Sheep Steward

- (i) The Sheep Steward is responsible that each batch of sheep for competition wool handling should be uniform in size and of similar wool type and clip weight. They should be full wooled (10 to 12 months growth) dry, clean and healthy.
- (ii) Sheep should be closely inspected prior to being considered as suitable for a wool handling competition i.e. no broken necks/split backs.
- (iii) Sheep with wooled bellies are recommended as this will reduce the variability factor for both the competitors and judges.
- (iv) Tails should also be uniform.
- (v) Other than minimal crutching/dagging in the interests of good husbandry, welfare and uniformity they will have received minimal preparation for competition.
- (vi) More than one breed/type may be used in the competition as long as it is the same for each Competitor.
- (vii) Sheep should be suitably held prior to the competition so that Competitors can collectively inspect sheep before heats commence and any considered to be sub-standard sheep removed before the competition starts.

(viii) The pens should contain only the required number of sheep for that heat so that the shearers are not able to select their sheep, nor have a shorter collection time when the pen is full which would disadvantage competitors. Number of sheep required are recommended as follows:

- Novice Heats 3, Final 4 (with a final if possible).
- Intermediate: Heats 4, Final 4.
- Open: Heats 4-5, final 7-8.

c. Shearing Stewards

- (i) Open / Senior classification Shearers who are fully conversant with the Woolhandling Rules and regulations will be used.
- (ii) Replacement Shearers should be available, but not changed within heats/ semis or final.
- (iii) Two loaded handpieces must be taken onto the boards by each shearer.
- (iv) Draw for stands must be made.
- (v) Shearers will require 'seconds' for their pens, especially when chutes are not present and shorn sheep are returned to pens.
- (vi) The shearers must enter the pen to collect their sheep which will allow the Competitor time to clear the boards.
- (vii) Each Competitor will attend two Shearers. Shearers on stands 1, 3 and 5 will wait with hand on pen door for 'GO'. The 'competition steward' (see rule d 3) will observe a synchronised pace is maintained during the shearing process. Shearers on stands 2, 4 and 6 will similarly commence on the second 'GO' when the Shearers on stands 1, 3 and 5 have stepped through after the undermine and starting the neck.

They will also maintain an even pace of shearing throughout the competition and finish together. Each team of Shearers will maintain a staggered pattern of shearing – Shearers must complete the crutch and undermine before their co-shearers finish their sheep.

- (viii) Shearers may ascertain from the Competitor prior to 'GO' where to throw the belly wool.
- (ix) The first flank wool must NOT be broken out nor stretched. The neck wool MUST be broken out (not slipped over the sheep's head).
- (x) Blatant assistance by the Shearer will be penalised, e.g. waiting on the undermine, or delaying the next catch especially when a fleece is lying on the Board. Also the Timekeeper will start the clock as soon as the Shearer has completed the last blow if there is any delay in switching the machine off.
- (xi) As soon as shearing is completed, Shearers will remove their hand-pieces and step inside the pen door to allow the Competitors to clear the Board.

d. Competition Stewards

- Competition Stewards are responsible to steward the following areas:
- (i) 'Runners' for table judging (fleece & oddment boxes).
 - (ii) Ensuring replacement boxes are available & appropriately labelled for each heat/semi or final.
 - (iii) 'Pen stewards' to ensure sheep remain in the pen (no assistance to shearer to catch sheep) and to supervise the 2 shearers for their designated competitor are in sync to the best of their ability. In conjunction with the timekeeper, a constant monitoring of the shearers is necessary in order to maintain a synchronised and uniform

pace throughout the competition (within and between heats). **Monitoring will ensure that shearers complete the crutch and undermine before their co-shearers finish their sheep.**

- (iv) To roll & remove fleeces once judged by the table Judges.

4. Facilities For Competition – The Stand

- a. The normal stand or trailer may be used.
- b. The stand may be either split-level or on the floor. In the latter there must be a clear distinction between board and floor i.e. white lines.
- c. The floor must be clean and smooth to enable easy cleaning.
- d. A slatted table will be available for each Competitor.
- e. Each table should be the same size for each Competitor.
- f. The number of containers – colour coded or numbered trays and bins available per Competitor for the fleeces and oddments will vary according to the number and type of sheep in the competition.
- g. A duplicate set of containers should be available so that the next heat can proceed without delay.

5. The Judges

Approved "Board" and "Table" Judges are to be used.

a. Board Judges

The number required will be one more than the number of Competitors competing at any one time e.g. 3 Competitors require 4 Board Judges.

The Board Judges will rotate clockwise, judging each Competitor in turn and recording penalties on the **Board Score Sheets**.

A Judge has the right to disqualify (after being discussed with the Chief Steward/Referee) any Competitor whose work or conduct on the boards/floor area is detrimental to the image of competition shearing and wool-handling.

b. Table Judges

A Table Judge will judge the rolled fleeces and oddments. **Depending on the number of available tables, the Judge may use two tables in order to speed up the operation.**

- (i) The judged fleece is left open on one table for a Steward to clear away while judging continues on the other table.
- (ii) More than one Table Judge can be utilised- i.e. one per table and rotate after each fleece has been judged.
- (iii) Wool sheets and frames are required for the wools after judging. Penalties are recorded on the **Table Score Sheet**.

c. Judging of Oddments

- (i) When the Judges rota has been distributed, the Chief Judge will identify a Judge for oddment for the duration of the competition.
- (ii) It is recommended a 'grid' consisting of 10x15cm sections should be available to assist with judging of oddments.
- (iii) Penalties are recorded on the **Table Score Sheet**.

6. The Scorekeeper

The Score Sheets/Time, Board and Table (i.e. Fleece/Wool and oddments) are collated as follows:

- a. Time: the time in seconds is divided by 10 seconds for each penalty point for the first minute and one penalty point per 5 seconds thereafter.
- b. Board: Judges "Board" penalty points are totalled.

- c. Table: Judges "Table" penalty points for rolled fleeces and the oddments is totalled.
- d. Then Time, Board and Table penalty points are entered on a Master Score Sheet and totalled. The competitor with the lowest aggregate score is the winner.
- e. In the event of a tie, the competitor with the lowest penalties for "table work" will take precedence. If there is still a tie, the competitor with the lowest penalties for "board work" will take precedence.
- f. The time of when results are made public must be detailed by the scorekeeper on the results sheet.
- g. Disputes must be lodged in writing to the Chief Steward within 15 minutes of results being posted accompanied with the appropriate fee (£20 / €20).

NB Only Stewards and Judges are permitted into the score-room.

7. The Timekeeper

- a. On completion of shearing the time taken by each competitor to finish is separately recorded on a Time Score-Sheet. The time "starts" (simultaneously) when the second shearer per competitor pulls the machine switch chord "off" after their last sheep and "stops" when each wool-handler signals that they have finished by raising their broom/hand to clearly indicate this.
- b. The timekeeper will also be required to record the duration of any stoppage which may occur through no fault of the competitor.
- c. The time allocated for each heat will be predetermined according to the type of sheep and the class of woolhandler. This should be monitored and kept the same throughout the heats.

- d. Should any stoppages occur through the fault of the machine or through a sheep escaping, a time allowance or a re-run will be given at the Chief Stewards discretion.

8. The Commentator

The commentator should not influence the outcome of the competition in any way through the following areas:

- a. Making Competitors aware of an error (i.e. missing a crutch/belly/cleaning of boards between sheep).
- b. Is not responsible for the synchronisation of Shearers- see 3 c) Competition Stewards.

9. Competitor Guidelines

- a. All competitors compete at their own risk.
- b. Competitors must be suitably attired e.g. suitable footwear, sponsors logo on attire, etc.
- c. Competitors are responsible for supplying their own broom.
- d. Competitors have the option to consult with their shearers their preferred order of sheep prior to commencing their heat / semi or final.
- e. Competitors have the option of having a 'board buddie' to assist with clean-up / set-up of containers prior to the commencement of their heat / semi or final.

10. Team events

Team events consist of 2 competitors for 2 shearers with 1 table. There will be 2 approved 'Board' judges (one to watch the board, one to watch the table) and a table judge. All judges to rotate as would normally.

1. Points Allocation for Objective Measurement.

Credit Card (CC) – 1 penalty point, applicable to judging on the board and clean up.

Paper size (A4) – 1 penalty point, applicable to judging fleece throw on the table.

Open Hand (OH)/Grid (10cms x 15cms).

– 2 penalty points – applicable to fleece roll and oddments.

Fixed Penalty (FP), Discretionary Penalty (DP)

– will apply in various sections as indicated. Generally up to 5 points for each operational fault and 10 points for a product (wool) fault.

2. Board Judging Procedure.

Each wool handler will attend to two Shearers.

- a. Check 'Boards', 'Floor' & 'Table' are clean at start.
CC
- b. Competitors must keep one foot on the floor at all times.
FP-5
- c. The wool handler must not approach the Shearer until the 1st belly has been shorn.
FP-5
- d. The belly wool is thrown clear by the Shearer and not handed to the wool handler.
FP-5
 - (i) A sheep with 'no belly wool' (NBW) must be noted on the Board Scorecard.
- e. Removal of crutch wool before Shearer steps through. Oddments are placed straight away in bins.
 - (i) Remove all crutch wool before Shearer steps through. Place in oddments box.
CC
 - (ii) If a Competitor misses a whole crutch and makes no attempt.
FP-10 & C.C (for oddments left)
 - (iii) Return flank wool.
- f. Any short 'Discoloured' wool (Top knot/Face), cleared as it's being shorn to avoid contaminating other wools.
CC
- g. Preparation of fleece 'pick up' and placement on the table: The wool handler may prepare the 'pick up' of the fleece as the Shearer completes the last flank.
 - (i) The fleece must be thrown from britch to neck.
FP-10
 - (ii) The correct way up for the breed.
FP-10
 - (iii) A fleece which is not flat and fully exposed will be penalised (Folded over or tucked under).
A4
 - (iv) A fleece hanging over the table will be penalised.
A4
- h.
 - (i) The shearing area must be clean before the next sheep is drawn out.
CC
 - (ii) Using locks or fleece to sweep the boards will incur penalty.
FP-5
 - (iii) Failing to remove fleece from boards before Shearer draws out next sheep.
FP-10
- i. Blatant assistance by the Shearer will be penalised, e.g. waiting on the undermine, or delaying the next catch especially when a fleece is lying on the boards. Also the Timekeeper may start the clock as soon as the Shearer has completed the last blow if there is any delay in switching machine off.
FP-5

- j. A waiting fleece may be placed on a clean floor area.
CC
- k. The belly wool must either be placed into the same fleece with which it has been shorn, or into an oddment box. Penalty for placing the belly wool into a different fleece.
FP-10
- l. The Belly -
Wool must be placed in the britch end of fleece. The appropriate place for the belly wool is inside the fleece at the britch end of the fleece.
FP-10
- m. The fleece is rolled britch to neck & secured with the neck wool.
(i) Rolled & secured to shoulder.
FP-5
(ii) Rolled & secured sideways or back to front.
FP-10
- n. (i) When the rolled fleece is placed into the allocated container it is deemed to be finished and can be removed for 'Table Judging'.
FP-5
(ii) Fleece of dissimilar type which are placed together in the same container will incur a penalty.
FP-10
- o. (i) The table top is clear prior to the next throw.
CC
(ii) Wrapped fleeces remaining on the table when the next throw is made incur a penalty.
FP-10
- p. All wools must be kept within the designated area. Wools thrown/swept into another Competitor's area/container must be removed immediately to avoid a penalty. Judge to remove these if necessary.
DP-5 to 10
- q. On completion the work area is left clean.
CC
- r. Should all the oddments bins be occupied, the competitor is permitted to make a separate pile on the floor for such items as wet wool, black wool etc., and inform the judge at the end of the heat. These items will then be brought to the Table Judge separately to the bins. However, should any bins be empty, the competitor will be penalised for what is on the floor.
CC
- s. Competitors to give a clear signal when they have finished by raising the broom/hand. They must not interfere with their wools after they have signalled that they have finished.
FP-5
- t. Competitors must remain on their stand until all Competitors have finished in each heat/semi or final.
FP-5

3. Table Judging

(Rolled fleeces and oddments)

- a. On arrival at the judging table, the fleece must be tipped out of the container by the Judge.
- b. The Judges must have sufficient table space in order to open and inspect every fleece.
- c. The discretion of the Judge should be used with droppy and matted fleeces which may prove difficult to roll and tuck in.

- d. When correctly rolled the fleece roll is cylindrical with a level top-line (like a swiss-roll and not like a rugby football) and the length approx. 150% of height.

4. The Fleece

- a. The fleece is rolled in the approved manner and according to breed type. i.e. staple tips in (most breeds), or staple tips out e.g. Scottish Blackface, Herdwick or Rough Fell (See British Wool Leaflet).
FP-10
- b. Compact and Neat.
DP - OH up to 20
Compactness and Shape.
Penalty on breaks in fleece showing tips wrong way.
2 points per OH
- c. Tuck-in and Secure.
DP up to 10
The fleece is secured at the mid-point.
- d. (i) Presence of oddments in fleece- CC/Skin unit. Skin presence - one point/unit size of a little finger nail (12mm).
- Locks.
 - Urine stain.
 - Dags.
 - Skin.
 - Black wool in white fleece.
 - Extraneous matter such as straw, bracken, seeds etc.
- Skirting of the fleece is not required. Do-not penalise full staple length wool within fleece.
Presence of oddments in fleece.
1 point per CC
(ii) Belly wool is clean & dry.
FP 10

5. Oddments Penalties

OH/Grid (10cm x 15cm).
There should be a clear distinction between the following:

- Dags.
- Urine stain - tail and pizzle.
- Locks - fragments of fleece brushed up, second cuts, clean crutch wool.
- Extraneous matter.
- Clean & Dry belly wool. **FP-10 points**
- Good fleece wool. **2 points per OH**

Should all the above bins be occupied, the competitor is permitted to make a separate pile on the floor for such items as wet wool, black wool, etc. and inform the judge at the end of that heat. These items will be brought to the Table Judge separately to the bins. The Judge will empty each bin in turn. Identify contents.
Separate out what should not be in the bin.

N.B. OH no maximum penalty.

Shearing Records

Andy Rankin



Congratulations to Merion, Nick and Una. All 3 are wonderful examples to inspire young shearers. A big thank you to everyone who works and gives their time behind the scenes for these record attempts.

It's been a good year for British Shearing with 3 successful British Records of which two went onto be World Records.

The first record of the season, on 13th of July, was the 9 hour British strongwool ewe record attempt by Merion Evans from Wales. The convenor was Mark Fox. Referees were Alan Derryman, Tom Dunne and Dilwyn Evans. There were also 2 trainee referees Rhys Jones and Gavin Stevens. The sheep used in the record were Welsh Mountain ewes. A new British Record of 791 was successfully achieved.

Next up was Nick Greaves's solo 8 hour strongwool lamb World and UK record attempt on the 3rd of August in Stafford. Ronnie King from New Zealand was the convenor. Referees were Mark Fox, Martyn David and Andy Rankin. Nick broke the previous record, held by Jack Fagan, by 10 lambs. The new record to beat is now 764.

On the 7th of August in Cornwall, Una Cameron attempted the 9 hour woman's strongwool ewe World Record held by Sacha Bond. Ronnie King was once again the conveyor along with Martyn David, Mark Fox and Andy Rankin. Una broke the record by 59 ewes setting a new World and British record of 517.

New Zealand had 2 World Records attempts this year both of which were not achieved.

Once again I am looking forward to this years shearing season. It's another big year as we have to pick our teams for the World Championships in Masterton, New Zealand in March 2026.

It will be great to catch up with everyone over the coming season. Please remember I am always available at the end of the phone to chat through all things to do with records. (07789 904638).

Andy Rankin
Chairman of the Records Committee

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Find out more



www.heiniger.co.uk

SWISS MADE  PRECISION

Circuit Information

England

Affiliation of the Circuit

Entry fee of £15 per person or £10 if received by 30/4/2025 is required to enter the Open, Senior and Intermediate Circuit (Open and Intermediate in Blade and Wool handling) affiliating by 1st May with the Junior's (Novice in blade and Wool handling) affiliating by 1st June. Please request a registration form from the secretary at englandshearing@gmail.com.

The Circuit will run in the form of a league table, there will be NO FINAL. In each category, the top ten placings of English Competitors will be awarded points: 1st-10, 2nd-9, 3rd-8, 4th-7, 5th-6, 6th-5, 7th-4, 8th-3, 9th-2, 10th-1. Results will be collated by the English secretary.

Machine Shearing Classes

Open, Senior, Intermediate and Junior

The Circuit:

North Somerset, Southern Shears, Devon County, Northumberland, Staffordshire County, Royal Bath & West, Royal Cornwall, Royal Three Counties, Royal Highland, Great Yorkshire Show.

Open Shearers

Highest points up to SEVEN shows will be taken.

Senior Shearers

Highest points up to SIX shows will be taken.

Intermediate Shearers

Highest points up to FIVE shows will be taken.

Junior Shearers

Highest points FIVE shows will be taken.

Prizes will be awarded to the top six places in each class, to take place at the Great Yorkshire Show.

Blade Shearing

Open, Intermediate and Novice

The Circuit:

North Somerset, Southern Shears, Devon County, Staffordshire Show, Royal Bath & West, Royal Three Counties, Royal Highland Show, Great Yorkshire Show, Northern Blades.

Highest points from Six shows will be taken. Prizes will be awarded to the top six places, to take place at the Northern Blades.

Prizes kindly donated by Burgon and Ball.

Wool Handling

Open, Intermediate and Novice

The Circuit:

Royal Welsh show (2024) Devon County, Staffordshire County, Royal Bath & West, Royal Three Counties, Royal Highland Show, Royal Welsh Show. (Royal Welsh show results 2025 to be taken forward to the 2026 circuit).

Woolhandlers must attend a minimum of FOUR shows.

Prizes kindly donated by the NAAC (National Association of Agricultural Contractors.) Prizes will be awarded to the top six places to take place at the Great Yorkshire Show.

Sashes will be awarded to the top six places in each category sponsored by NEMSA, Skipton Branch.

Circuit Information

Scotland

The Scottish circuit is open to all classifications. All competitors wishing to compete in all sections of the 2025 Circuit must however be entered by 10th May with a fee of £5 to be paid. Competitors in all disciplines will receive an additional point for attending each of the Scottish competition events.

Machine

Competitors participating in the competitions at, The Royal Ulster Show, Lesmahagow Show, Staffordshire Show, The Royal Highland Show, Locheamhead Shears, Great Yorkshire Show, Corwen, The Black Isle Show. Angus (Junior and Intermediate only). Echt (Junior and Intermediate only).

Open Shearers must complete 5 Shows. 2026 World Championships qualifying team will consist of Scottish National and Circuit top placings.

Juniors, Intermediate and Senior only need attend four shows. The winner in sections will be the competitor with highest placed points. Rules for a tie for first place will be the number of wins from the required shows.

Blade

Competitors participating in the competitions at, Lesmahagow Show, Staffordshire Show, Royal Highland Show, Locheamhead Shears, Great Yorkshire Show, The Black Isle Show.

Four sets of points are required to qualify and the winner in this section will be the competitor with the highest placed points. Rule for tie for first place will be the number of wins from four shows. 2026 World Championship qualifying team will be the top two placings from the circuit.

Woolhandling

Competitors participating in the competitions at, The Royal Ulster, The Royal Welsh Smallholders, Staffordshire Show, The Royal Highland Show, Locheamhead Shears, Corwen, Royal Welsh Show, The Black Isle Show.

Five sets of points will be required to qualify, the winner will be the competitor with the highest placed points. Rule for a tie for first place will be the number of wins from five shows. 2026 World Championship qualifiers will be the top two placings from the circuit.

Intermediate woolhandlers must submit 4 sets of points.

Novice woolhandlers need only submit 3 sets of points.

Points will only be awarded to those entered in the circuit prior to the circuit commencing. Best placed at each show will receive 12 points and 1 point less per lower placing thereafter.

Individuals chosen to represent Scottish Shearing will fit the qualifying Scottish criteria and are chosen subject to the discretion of the committee, the decision of which is final.

Welsh Open Circuits

The Welsh Open Blade Shearing, Machine Shearing and Woolhandling Circuits are for Open standard competitors only. Please refer to the 2025 RWAS Shearing & Woolhandling Schedule for qualification details for the selection of Welsh Teams for the 2026 Golden Shears World Championships and Test matches.

Welsh Open Blade Shearing Circuit

E.F. £5 by 14 May 2025
Competitors must compete at a minimum of 7 out of the 9 qualifying competitions.

Qualifying Competitions

Devon County; Royal Welsh Spring Festival; Staffordshire County Show; Royal Bath & West Show; Llysfasi Shears; Royal Three Counties Show; Gelert Shears; Cothi Shears; Royal Welsh Show. The results from Corwen Shears 2025 will be included in the 2026 Circuit.

Welsh Open Machine Shearing Circuit

E.F. £20 by 14 May 2025
Competitors must compete at a minimum of 7 out of 10 qualifying competitions.

Qualifying Competitions

Devon County; Staffordshire County Show; Royal Bath & West Show; Llysfasi Shears; Royal Three Counties; Royal Highland Show; Great Yorkshire Show; Cothi Shears; Royal Welsh Show; *Corwen Shears
*Results from 2024 competition will be included.

Results from six out of the first eight competitions will be used to select the new 2025/26 Welsh Development Team.

Welsh Open Woolhandling Circuit

E.F. £5 by 14 May 2025
Competitors must compete at a minimum of 7 out of the 9 qualifying competitions.

Qualifying Competitions

Royal Welsh Spring Festival; Staffordshire County Show; Royal Bath & West Show; Llysfasi Shears; Royal Three Counties; Cothi Shears; Royal Welsh Show; *Corwen Shears; *Bont Shears
*Results from 2024 competitions will be included.

NISSA Northern Ireland Circuit

Circuit open to all shearers in the 32 counties of Ireland. **All N. Ireland shearers MUST be a paid up member of NISSA.** If entry fees are paid by the end of second show results from Balmoral will count. Entries will be accepted after this, but only results from date of payment will count towards your overall placing.

If required fees are not paid at the time of entry, you will not be included regardless of results.

Points from Balmoral Show will be taken from the international competitions. In the event of a tie at the final stage, quality marks taken from the pen score at the final eligible competition will take precedence. If a tie still remains then qualifying positions from the semi-finals, or position in heats (if shearers did not make the semi-finals or final) will be used.

Bonus points for board & pen must be within a reasonable time and will be the lowest in either heat, semi-final or final of each class.

Prize Giving & overall results will be announced at a sponsors presentation event. Date and time to be arranged.

Appropriate etiquette of Shearers is expected during presentation of awards

To pay membership and entry, contact NISSA Treasurer.

E.F. £20

Scoring

1 st	10 points	4 th	5 points
2 nd	8 points	5 th	4 points
3 rd	6 points	6 th	4 points
...and so on			

Bonus points at each competition:
1 for best board score
1 for best pen score in each class (within reasonable time)

Eligible Competitions

May

Balmoral Show
Raphoe
Mountbellew

June

Other TBA
Royal Highland Show

July

Omagh show
NISSA Shears

August

Clonmany Show/All Ireland

Prizes 1st - 3rd places for Junior, Intermediate, Senior and Open.

Competitors Diary 2025

The following pages list all the shearing competitions we have been notified of for 2025. Please check with all societies to make sure that the competition is being held.

Reminder to all Competition Secretaries

To all competition secretaries and particularly to those present at competitor check in, please ensure that all competitors give their Classification Number or if a non-classified shearer gives their full name and address with postcode.

At the end of your competitions please ensure you forward your results as soon as possible to: emmajagger@britishwool.org.uk so these can be placed on the British Wool Website.

Reminder to all shearers

Please quote your classification number when entering competitions, particularly important where late entries are taken.

Many thanks to all concerned.

Richard Schofield

Competitions Secretary

05.04.25

French Shears

Le Merle – (Salon de Provence)

Contact: Eléonore Resneau 003363 155 7683

eleonore.resneau@gmail.com

Entry – Check-in

8.30am

Junior, Intermediate, Blade, Senior & Open, Wool Handling, Heats

2.00pm

All semi-finals and Finals

Six Nation Blade

05.05.25

North Somerset Show

EC 22.04.25

Secretary: Tim Ledbury, 'Our Offices'
4, Yeewood Farm, Iwood Lane, Wrington,
BS40 5NU. Telephone: 01934 837283

Blade shearing competitors to be booked in before 8.00am.

All Machine shearing competitors must be booked in before 9.00am, classes to start at 8.30am.

Entries will NOT be taken on the day.

Class 1 Novice Blade

(Capped at 4 competitors)

E.F. £10

1st £70 2nd £50 3rd £30 4th £20

Kindly Sponsored by Fernhill Farm

Class 2 Blade

(capped at 8 competitors)

E.F. £20

1st £100 2nd £60 3rd £40 4th £20

Kindly Sponsored by Fernhill Farm

Class 3 Senior

(Capped at 16 competitors)

E.F. £20

1st £175 2nd £125 3rd £75 4th £50

Class 4 Open

(Capped at 20 competitors)

E.F. £20

1st £250 2nd £150 3rd £100 4th £50

The Fernhill Cup kindly donated by Fernhill Farm, will be awarded to the winner of class 4

Class 5 Intermediate

(Capped at 12 competitors)

E.F. £15

1st £150; 2nd £100, 3rd £50, 4th £25

Class 6 Junior

(Capped at 8 competitors)

E.F. £10

1st £75; 2nd £50, 3rd £40, 4th £30

Kindly Sponsored by Rob Lee

11.05.25**Southern Shears UK****EC 30.04.25**

Venue: Copford Farm, Dem Lane, Waldron, Heathfield, East Sussex TN21 0PN, by kind permission of The Gingell Family.
Website: southernshears.weebly.com
Facebook: [facebook.com/SouthernShearsUK](https://www.facebook.com/SouthernShearsUK)

All Entries on the Website – enter online from your laptop or smart phone. Enter early to guarantee a shear.

No entries accepted on the day

Enquires to Phil Hart, Tel: 07717 054 172
Email: phil.hart369@icloud.com

Public, friends & partners of competitors, entry fee £5 per person. Under 16 year olds free. Prize Cards 1st to 5th to be awarded in each class.

Booking In and to be on site by 8.00am
 Novice/YFC/Junior/Intermediate/Women Competitors/Veteran.

Booking in and to be on site by 10.00am
 Novice Blades/Open Blades Competitors.

Booking in and to be on site by 12 noon
 Senior/Open Competitors.

All PRESENTATIONS will take place at the end of the day.

Shearing vests supplied and sponsored by Homer Shearing.

8.30am

Novice Class
 Sponsored by Ernest Doe Power, Ringmer BN8 5NN
 1st £25 2nd £15 3rd £10 4th £8 E.F. £15
 Followed by all other classes as in order below.

Junior

Sponsored by British Wool Marketing Board, Bradford BD2 1AZ
 1st £25 2nd £20 3rd £15 4th £8 E.F. £15

Women

Sponsored by Lee House Farm, Billingshurst RH14 0PF
 1st £40 2nd £30 3rd £20 4th £15 E.F. £15

Veterans

Sponsored by ACT Aitcham Shrewsbury SY4 4UG
 1st £40 2nd £30 3rd £20 4th £15 E.F. £15

Intermediate

Sponsored by NFU South East, Petersfield GU32 3QG
 1st £40 2nd £30 3rd £20 4th £10 E.F. £15

Followed by

Semi-finals for Novice, Junior, Women, Veterans & Intermediate

Followed by

Finals for Novice, Junior, Women, Veterans & Intermediate

Intermediate Blades

Sponsored by Blade Shear Gear UK, Crediton EX17 5JQ
 Prize vouchers from Blade Shear Gear UK E.F. £15

Open Blades

Sponsored by George Mudge & Co. Tavistock PL19 9JT
 1st £60 2nd £40 3rd £25 4th £15 E.F. £15

Senior

Sponsored by Shearwell Data Ltd. Putham, TN24 7AS
 1st £55 2nd £35 3rd £25 4th £15 E.F. £18

Open

Sponsored by Robins of Herstmonceux, Herstmonceux BN27 4QG & McVeigh Parker, Billingshurst RH14 9JR
 1st £150 2nd £70 3rd £40 4th £30 E.F. £18

Followed by

Semi Finals for Senior & Open

Followed by

Finals for Seniors & Open Cleanest Pen – Open Final
 Sponsored by Alan Kensett, Horsham RH12 4TR.
 1st The Alan Kensett Cup & £50

Speed Shearing

Entry on the day
 1st £200 2nd £150 3rd £50 E.F. £20
 The Speed shear final to take place after the open final & before the Presentation of all certificates

Speed shearing vests sponsored by Gillies Shearing, Western Australia.

Southern Shears UK are pleased to host the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs – South East Area round of their Shearing Competition at our Shearing Competition as set out above. All enquiries to Phil Hart as above.

14.05.25**Royal Ulster Agricultural Society****EC 25.04.25**

Royal Ulster Agricultural Society, Balmoral Park, Halftown Road, Lisburn, Co Antrim. BT27 5RD Tel: 02890 665225.

Entries can be made online at www.balmoralshow.co.uk

14.05.25

Junior

15.05.25

Intermediate Machine Shearing
 Royal Ulster National Shearing Championship
 Royal Ulster National Blade Shearing
 Royal Ulster National Wool Handling

16.05.25

Senior Machine Shearing
 Novice & Open Wool Handling
 Wool Handling Development Test – 3 Way (1 Open & 1 Novice)

17.05.25

Open Machine Shearing
 Blade Shearing
 Ladies Shearing Competition
 International Open Shearers Test Presentations

15.05.25**Devon County Show****E.C 07.05.25**

Secretary – Mercedes Pemberton-Matthews, Devon County Show, Westpoint, Clyst St Mary, Exeter. EX5 1DJ, Tel: 01392 353708, Email: mercedes@dcsshow.org

Schedules with full details available to download and entries may be made online at www.devoncountyshow.co.uk

Times are approximate and, depending on entries, may change.

16.05.25**8.00am**

Novice Wool Handling
 1st £60 2nd £40 3rd £30 4th £20 E.F. £15

Followed by

Open Wool Handling
 1st £90 2nd £70 3rd £50
 4th £30 5th £20 6th £10 E.F. £15

Followed by

Senior Championship
 1st £175 2nd £120 3rd £100
 4th £75 5th £60 6th £40 E.F. £18

Followed by

Open Championship
 1st £350 2nd £210 3rd £160
 4th £135 5th £100 6th £70 E.F. £20

17.06.25**9.00am**

Novice Wool Handling
1st £60 2nd £40 3rd £30 4th £20 E.F. £15

Followed by

Open Wool Handling
1st £90 2nd £70 3rd £50
4th £30 5th £20 6th £10 E.F. £15

Followed by

Senior Championship
1st £175 2nd £120 3rd £100
4th £75 5th £60 6th £40 E.F. £18

Followed by

Open Championship
1st £350 2nd £210 3rd £160
4th £135 5th £100 6th £70 E.F. £20

18.05.25**Royal Welsh Spring Festival****E.C. 2.05.25**

Mrs Tracy Powell, RWAS Ltd, Llanelwedd,
Builth Wells, Powys LD2 3SY
Tel: (01982) 554420. E-mail: tracy@rwas.co.uk
ENTER ONLINE at: www.rwas.wales

Blade shearing and Woolhandling competitions will be held at the Spring Festival on Sunday 18 May 2025 at the Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells, LD2 3SY.

Strictly no late entries will be accepted. Competitors must report in person, 1 hour before the commencement of their competition. Failure to do this may result in the competitor concerned NOT being allowed to compete. The draw will be undertaken on a first entered, last heat system. Please refer to the Royal Welsh Smallholding & Countryside Festival Blade Shearing & Woolhandling Schedule for further details.

9.00am.

Novice Woolhandling Competition
1st £75 2nd £65 3rd £55
4th £40 5th £30 6th £20 E.F. £10

Intermediate

Woolhandling Competition
1st £90 2nd £75 3rd £65
4th £50 5th £40 6th £30 E.F. £10

Open Woolhandling Competition
1st £120 2nd £100 3rd £85
4th £65 5th £50 6th £30 E.F. £15

Novice Commercial
Blade Shearing Competition
1st £55 2nd £45 3rd £40 E.F. £10

Intermediate Commercial
Blade Shearing Competition
1st £60; 2nd £55; 3rd £45 E.F. £10

Open Commercial
Blade Shearing Competition
1st £120 2nd £100 3rd £85
4th £65 5th £50 6th £30 E.F. £15

24.05.25**Isle of Man Show**

Entries to email: isleofmanshearing@hotmail.com
Tel: 07624 479866 Phillip Christian
Venue: Guilcagh Farm, Andreas, Isle of Man.
Facebook: Isle Of Man Shears

Junior/Intermediate/Senior & Open
Machine Classes

28.05.25**Staffordshire County Show****E.C. 09.05.25**

**All enquiries to the Sheep Shearing Secretary:
Mrs Angela Cope, Grange Cottage, 265
Sandon Road, Meir Heath, Stoke on Trent,
Staffs. ST3 7EA Tel: 07866 766047
Office: 01782 326050
Email: info@nccconstruction.co
Please do not contact the
Showground office directly.**

**Online Entries (Closing date 09.05.25)
Enter on-line with Entrymaster
[www.staffscountyshowground.co.uk/
staffordshire-county-show/schedules-
and-entry-forms.](http://www.staffscountyshowground.co.uk/staffordshire-county-show/schedules-and-entry-forms)**

**Competition Venue: Annex 1, Bingley Hall,
Staffordshire County Showground, Weston
Road, Stafford ST18 0BD.**

**Staffordshire County Show is a
qualifying show on the English, Welsh
and Scottish circuits.**

8.00am Prompt

Class 1. Blade Shearing - Novice/Intermediate
Competitors to be present for the draw at 7.30am.
Kindly sponsored by Glenthorne Vets.
1st The Glenthorne Novice Blade
Challenge Trophy E.F. £12

Followed by:

Class 2. Blade Shearing - Open
Competitors to be present for the draw at 7.30am.
Kindly sponsored by George Mudge & Co.
1st The George Mudge Open Blade
Challenge Trophy E.F. £20

Followed by:

Class 3. Machine Shearing - Junior
Competitors to be present for the draw at 9.00am.
Kindly sponsored by the family
of the late David & Jean Short.
1st The Wellies Project Junior Shears
Challenge Trophy E.F. £10

Followed by:

Class 4. Machine Shearing - Intermediate
Competitors to be present for the draw at 10.00am.
Kindly sponsored by Nick Greaves Shearing.
E.F. £15



29.05.25**8.00am Prompt**

Class 5. Wool Handling - Novice/Intermediate Competitors to be present for the draw at 7.30am. Kindly sponsored by W B Daw & Son. 1st The W B Daw & Son Novice Wool Handling Challenge Trophy E.F. £12

Followed by:

Class 6. Wool Handling - Open Competitors to be present for the draw at 7.30am. Kindly sponsored by Mr & Mrs N Cope (NC Construction Ltd). 1st The NC Construction Open Wool Handling Challenge Trophy E.F. £20

Followed by:

Class 7. Machine Shearing - Senior Competitors to be present for the draw at 10.30am. 1st The Derek Stubbs Senior Shears Memorial Trophy E.F. £20

Followed by:

Class 8. Machine Shearing - Open Competitors to be present for the draw at 12.30pm. 1st The David Brookes Open Shears Memorial Trophy E.F. £25 Kindly Sponsored by Homer Shearing each class.

Best Pen marks
Box of Combs (given by Homer Shearing)
(excl. final)

Full details of prize money and Sponsors are available online/in 2025 Staffordshire Show Shearing Schedule.

Competitors Please Note:

COMPETITIONS COMMENCE AT 8.00am SHARP each day.

Please book-in, in person, at the 'Booking In' desk in Annex 1/Sheep Shearing Area.

Check-in each day at 7.30am. (for Novice/Intermediate Blade and Novice/Intermediate Woolhandling)

Please refer to schedule for all other check-in times but please be mindful that times are approximate and subject to change.

Free showground admission STRICTLY for ONLY prepaid entries prior to 09.05.25.

Late entries / Entries on the day will only be accepted if there are sufficient sheep available. All Entries received following the closing date of 09 May 2025 will be subject to an Entry Surcharge Fee of £10 in addition to the Entry Fee and no showground admission ticket will be given.

The number of Entries may be capped for some classes depending on availability of sheep.

All competitors will be given a singlet to wear in the heats – kindly donated by Homer Shearing Ltd. Open Blade finalists will be given a singlet – kindly donated by George Mudge.

England/Scotland/Wales Tests may be held each day, depending on availability of sheep and time.

There is strictly NO PARKING FACILITY FOR COMPETITORS by Bingley Hall/on the Showground itself – All competitors MUST use designated general public car parks as signposted and directed by SBAS staff.

All competitors to please observe the Staffs Show competitors' rules and competition details as written in the Staffs Show 2025 schedule. A copy is available to download from www.staffscountyshowground.co.uk

31.05.25**Lesmahagow****EC 11.05.25**

Dye Clark – 07958 047964

8.00am
Blades
1st £60 2nd £40 3rd £20 E.F. £15

8.30am
Junior
1st £60 2nd £40 3rd £20 E.F. £15

9.00am
Intermediate
1st £70 2nd £50 3rd £30 E.F. £15

10.00am
Senior
1st £100 2nd £70 3rd £50 E.F. £15

12 noon
Open
1st £125 2nd £100 3rd £70 E.F. £17
Late entries 50% surcharge

30.05.25**Royal Bath & West****E.C 16.05.25**

Amelia Battagel, Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 6QN.
Email: amelia.battagel@bathandwest.co.uk
Tel: 01749 822209

Schedules with full details available to download and entries may be made online at www.bathandwest.co.uk

9.00am
British Wool Golden Shears Junior (Incl. The Worshipful Company of Woolmen Junior Competition)
E.F. £15

10.00am
Fernhill Farm Novice Blade Shearing
E.F. £15

Followed by:
Intermediate Blade Shearing
E.F. £17

11:00am
Worshipful Company of Woolmen Golden Shears Intermediate
E.F. £17

11:30am
Golden Shears Open Blade Shearing
E.F. £17

3.00pm
Blade Shearing Test
Invitation Only

31.05.25

8.30am
Open Wool Handling
E.F. £17

Followed by:
Novice Wool Handling
E.F. £17

09.30am
Royal Bath & West English National
E.F. £23
The English National heats will be run within the Lister Golden Shears Open heats – the top 12 English Shearers will go forward to the semi-final. The English National heats will be run within the Lister Golden Shears Open heats - the top 12 English Shearers will go forward to the Semi Final.

11:00am
Golden Shears Senior
E.F. £23

2.00pm
Lister Golden Shears Open
E.F. £25

Times are approximate and, depending on entries, may change.

31.05.25

European Shearing Championships

Venue: Mountbellew Mart, Ballygar Road, Mountbellew, Galway H53 HW98
Contact: mart@mountbellew.ie
Tel: 085 252 4295 www.shearfest.ie

06.06.25

Royal Cornwall

E.C. 01.06.25

Show Secretary: Hollie Comelius, West Rose Barn, St.Breward, Bodmin, Cornwall, PL30 4NL.
 Tel: 07799 788001
 Email: rcs.shearingsecretary@gmail.com
 Facebook: "Royal Cornwall Shearing"

10.30am

Royal Cornwall Show Young Farmers' Championship
 1st £100 2nd £75 3rd £50
 4th £40 5th £30 E.F. £10

Followed by:

Royal Cornwall Show Junior Championship
 1st £100 2nd £75 3rd £50
 4th £40 5th £30 E.F. £10

Royal Cornwall Show Intermediate Championship
 1st £150 2nd £120 3rd £90
 4th £70 5th £50 E.F. £15

07.06.25**9.30am**

Royal Cornwall Show Senior Championship
 1st £200 2nd £150 3rd £100
 4th £75 5th £60 E.F. £18

Followed by:

Royal Cornwall Show Open Championship
 1st £350 2nd £250 3rd £175
 4th £125 5th £100 E.F. £20

Trophies

Robert Truscott Memorial Trophy
 Winner of the Junior Championship

John Bone Memorial Trophy
 Cleanest Local Shearer in the Senior Championship (Cornwall & Devon)

Arthur Rundle Memorial Trophy
 Best pen over the whole show

06.06.25

Cneifio Llysfasi Shears

E.C. 02.06.25

Contact Joe Mault Tel: 01978 267931
Email: cneifio.llysfasi@cambria.ac.uk
Facebook: "Cneifio Llysfasi Shearing"
Venue: Llysfasi, Llanfair DC, Ruthin, Denbigshire LL15 2LB

Novice Wool Handling Championship
 1st £30 2nd £15 3rd £10 E.F. £4

Intermediate Wool Handling Championship
 1st £40 2nd £20 3rd £12 E.F. £5

Open Wool Handling Championship
 1st £50 2nd £25 3rd £15 E.F. £5

Novice Blade Shearing Competition
 1st £40 2nd £30 3rd £25
 4th £15 5th £10 E.F. £5

Open Blade Competition
 1st £100 2nd £65 3rd £30
 4th £20 5th £15 E.F. £10

07.06.25

Junior Competition
 1st £100 2nd £70 3rd £50
 4th £25 5th £15 E.F. £12

Intermediate Competition
 1st £150 2nd £90 3rd £75
 4th £50 5th £30 E.F. £15

Senior Competition
 1st £200 2nd £135 3rd £100
 4th £75 5th £40 E.F. £18

Open Competition
 1st £375 2nd £225 3rd £150
 4th £100 5th £50 E.F. £20

07.06.25

Angus Show

Show Secretary: Arlene Alston
Email: theangusshow@aol.co.uk
Email for entry form, entries will also be taken on the day.
Venue: Brechin Castle Show Field, Haughmuir, Brechin DD9 6RL

11.00am
 Young Farmers
 E.F. £0

11.30am
 Junior & Intermediate
 E.F. £20

12 Noon
 Senior & Open
 E.F. £25

13.06.25

Royal Three Counties Show

E.C. 31.05.25

Ben Peer, Three Counties Agricultural Society, Malvern, Worcestershire WR13 6NW
Tel: 01684 584907 Fax: 01684 584910
Email: Ben.Peer@threecounties.co.uk

1.30pm

Registration starts
 Blade Shearing: Novice - Intermediate
 Blade Shearing: Open
 Blade Test

14.06.25**7.00am**

Registration starts
 Machine Shearing: Novice/ Junior/YFC
 Intermediate
 Senior
 Womens
 Senior Development Test
 Finals

15.06.25**7.00am**

Registration starts
 Wool Handling: Novice – Intermediate
 Wool Handling: Open
 Machine Shearing: Open
 Wool Handling Test
 Open Machine Test
 Wool Handling Finals
 Machine Open Final

Entries close on the 31st May 2025.
 Entry is allowed on the day, depending on availability and numbers.

All Shearers are expected to tip up out the back. Shearers are to only shear in their designated class.

R T Anthony kindly donates Shearing Singlets.

DATE TBC**Ballymena Shears**

Date & Venue to be confirmed

19.06.25**Royal Highland****EC 12.05.25****ENTRIES OPEN 18th of MARCH.****ENTRIES CLOSE 12th of MAY****(on paper and online. Please note sections may close sooner if they reach capacity)****www.royalhighlandshow.org**

Competitions to be held under British Isles Shearing Competition Association. To be held at the MacRobert Theatre, Royal Highland Showground.

Timetable (dates & times are still subject to change, please refer to RHS entry system for final dates).

20.06.25Junior Machine
Young Farmers
Intermediate Machine
Blade**21.06.25**Open Woolhandling
Novice Woolhandling
Woolhandling Development Test
Senior Machine
Senior Development Test**22.06.25**Scottish National
Open Machine
6 Nations
Open Development Test**28.06.25****Locheamhead Shears
Scottish Blackface
Shearing Competition****EC 15.06.25****Rhoda Keenan, 1 Keip Road, Strathyre,
Perthshire FK18 8NG.****Tel: 01877 384684 or 07866472628****Email: rhokeenan1@hotmail.co.uk****7.00am**R McLarty & Sons Hand Shears
E.F. £15**7.30am**Wool Handling
E.F. £15
Novice Wool Handling
E.F. £12**8.00am**AB Gaims Junior Heats
E.F. £12**8.30am**Highway Shearing Intermediate Heats
E.F. £15**9.00am**Carrs Billington Agriculture Senior Heats
E.F. £20**9.30am**Heiniger Open Heats
E.F. £25

Please note that only worm drivers will be used. ALL competitors are expected to uphold biosecurity protocols

Entries in one classification only – only paid entries accepted. All entries received and paid before Sunday 15th June 2025 will receive a free field pass which must be worn and shown at gate otherwise you will be charged gate entry fee which is nonrefundable.

Entries close Sunday 15th June or as soon as previous numbers have been reached.
Enter Online at lsbss.lite.events**05.07.25****Cneifio Gelert Shears**Gareth Owen Tel: 01766 890319 for pre-entries or you can enter on the day.
Venue: Cwn Cloch, Beddgelert LL55 4UY
For other information please email
llinos Owen: cysgodyrhebog@btconnect.com**1.00pm**Blade Shearing
Junior
Intermediate
Open**05.07.25****Hanbury Countryside
Show****E.C. 02.07.25****Contact: Sue Farmer Tel: 07841 499660
Email: showmanager@hanburyshow.co.uk****Entries online via www.hanburyshow.co.uk
Entries Open: 1st April 2025.****Closing Date: Wednesday 2nd July 2025.****Entries may be accepted on the day but only if there is space, pre-entries are advised to guarantee your entry. Pre-entries will also receive one ticket to the show.****9.00am**Class 1: Junior Competition
1st £50 2nd £40 3rd £30
4th £20 E.F. £5**Followed by:**Class 2: Intermediate Competition
1st £100 2nd £75 3rd £50
4th £25 E.F. £8**1.30pm**Class 3: Senior Competition
1st £150 2nd £100 3rd £50
4th £25 E.F. £10**Followed by:**Class 4: Open Competition
1st £200 2nd £150 3rd £100
4th £50 E.F. £15**05.07.25****Omagh Show****E.C. 28.06.25****3 Gillygooley Road, Omagh.****Contact David O'Neill 07751 147 985****9:30am**

Check In

10:00amHeats
Junior
Intermediate
Senior
Open

Late entries: Sheep numbers permitting, with a £10 late entry fee surcharge onto existing entry fee

Part of the ABP NISSA Circuit

08.07.25

Great Yorkshire

EC 12.06.25

Amanda Stoddart-West, Livestock & Entries Secretary, Yorkshire Agricultural Society, Regional Agricultural Centre, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8NZ Tel: 01423 546231

National Young Farmer Heats
Junior Heats
Intermediate Heats
National Young Farmers Final
Junior Semi-Final
Intermediate Semi-Final
Yorkshire Intermediate Shearer of the Year
Junior Final
Intermediate Final

09.07.25

Senior Heats
Open Heats
Senior Semi-Final
Open Semi-Final
Senior Test
Open Test
Yorkshire Final
Senior Final
Open Final

10.07.25

Wool Handling Novice
Wool Handling Open
Heats
Wool Handling Final
Intermediate Blade Heats
Open Blade Heats

Ladies Heats
Veterans Heats
Yorkshire Ladies Final
Blade Final
Ladies Final
Veterans Final

11.07.25

Sheep Shearing Demonstration Day

11.07.25

French Shears Boussac (Creuse)

**Contact: Pierre et Lauriane Grancher
Tel 0033 (0)6 98 51 70 27/
0033 (0)648 09 42 08
Email: lauriannedesbois@yahoo.fr**

Speed Shear

12.07.25

8.00am
Registration all events

8.30am
Junior, Intermediate, Blade
and Woolhandling Heats

2.00pm
Senior and Open Heats

13.07.25

8.30am
Intermediate, Senior and Open semi-finals

11.00am
Blade and Woolhandling semi finals

2.00pm
All Finals Inc. French Champion,
International Test Match

18.07.25

Cneifio Cothi Shears

E.C. 11.07.25

Entries to 07834 346604. Entries will close Friday 11th July or when classes are full. Please enter at your earliest convenience to avoid disappointment. Follow our Facebook page for further information.

Woolhandling & Blade Shearing
Novice Woolhandling
E.F. £8

Intermediate Woolhandling
E.F. £10

Open Woolhandling
E.F. £12

Novice Blade Shearing
E.F. £8

Open Blade Shearing
E.F. £12

Commencing with blade shearing heats at 9am, followed by woolhandling heats. Finals after lunch.

19.07.25

Machine Shearing
Junior Shearing
E.F. £10

Intermediate Shearing
E.F. £12

Senior Shearing
E.F. £15

Open Shearing
E.F. £20

Commencing with junior shearing heats, followed by intermediate heats and junior/intermediate semi-finals. Senior and open heats after lunch, followed by senior/open semi-finals. All finals and Wales V New Zealand Test after afternoon break.

19.07.25

Martel

**Contact: Loïc Leygonie 00336 667 26122
loic.leygonie@live.fr
Venue: Martel, 120km South of Limoges**

19.07.25

8.00am
Entry check in

8.30am
Machine Junior, Intermediate,
Senior & Open Heats

2.00pm
All semi-finals & Finals

21.07.25

Royal Welsh Show

E.C. 20.06.25

**Mrs Tracy Powell, RWAS Ltd, Llanelwedd, Bulth Wells, Powys LD2 3SY
Tel: (01982) 554420 Email: tracy@rwas.co.uk
ENTER ONLINE at: www.rwas.wales**

Strictly NO late or replacement entries will be accepted. Competitors must report in person, 1 hour before the commencement of their competition. Failure to do this may result in the competitor concerned NOT being allowed to compete. All competitors will be required to use a worm drive. The draw will be undertaken on a first entered, last heat system.

Please refer to the 2025 RWAS Shearing & Woolhandling schedule for qualification details for the Welsh teams selected to represent Wales at the 2026 Golden Shears World Championships and for the Test matches.

Welsh Circuits

Please refer to RWAS schedule for full details

E.C. 14.05.25

Welsh Open Woolhandling Circuit
E.F. £5

Welsh Open Blade Shearing Circuit
E.F. £5

Welsh Open Machine Shearing Circuit
E.F. £20

TPF Total Prize Fund

8.00am

Novice Woolhandling Competition
TPF £285 E.F. £15

Intermediate Woolhandling Competition
TPF £350 E.F. £15

Open Woolhandling Competition
TPF £450 E.F. £15

Traditional Blade Shearing – Ewes
TPF £290 E.F. £15

Traditional Blade Shearing – Lambs
TPF £290 E.F. £15

Open Commercial Blade Shearing – Ewes
TPF £450 E.F. £15

Novice Commercial Blade Shearing – Ewes
TPF £230 E.F. £15

Champion Blade Shearer of Wales
TPF £450 E.F. £10

The top 6 Welsh competitors entered
in the Royal Welsh Open

Commercial Blade Shearing competition will
qualify for the Champion Blade Shearer of Wales
Final to be held on the Wednesday. Competitors
must enter this competition by the closing date.

22.07.25

8.00am

Junior Championship
TPF £335 plus Handpiece E.F. £15

10.30am

Intermediate Championship
TPF £420 plus Handpiece E.F. £15

4.00pm

Worshipful Company of Woolmen Junior
Competition
TPF £1,100

23.07.25

8.00am

Senior Championship
TPF £580 plus Handpiece E.F. £17

9.15am

Open Championship
TPF £1,695 E.F. £20

10.45am

Champion Shearer of Wales
TPF £1,260 plus Handpiece E.F. £15

The top 18 Welsh competitors entered in the
Royal Welsh Open competition will qualify for
the semi-finals of the Champion Shearer of
Wales competition. Competitors must enter
this competition by the closing date. No Senior
competitors will be allowed to compete.

1.30pm

Champion Blade Shearer of Wales
TPF £450 E.F. £10

24.07.25

10.00am

Ladies Shearing Competition
TPF £325 E.F. £15

10.30am

Veterans Shearing Competition
61 years of age and over, run under BISCA rules
TPF £325 E.F. £15

11.00am

Veterans Shearing Competition
50 – 60 years of age, run under BISCA rules
TPF £325 E.F. £15

Date TBC**Welsh Lamb
Shearing Circuit**

E.C. 20.06.25

**The top 5 competitors in each of the four
classes will compete in a final to be held at
Cwmduddwr Shears held at Glan Elan Farm,
Rhayader on Sunday 23 August 2025. E.F. £5**

Please refer to the RWAS Shearing schedule for
full details. The qualifying competitions are:
Cothi Shears; Royal Welsh Show; Corwen Shears;
Bro Ddyfi Shears; Bont Shears; Brecon Show;
Oswestry Show, Llanfyllin Show
and Cwmduddwr Shears.

Open: TPF £720

Senior: TPF £535

Intermediate: TPF £400

Junior: TPF £345

25.07.25**Cneifio Corwen Shears**

E.C. 11.07.25

**Venue: Rhug Farm, Corwen,
Denbighshire LL21 0EH**

Contact: Entries to Lowri Evans via website

www.cneifiocorwenshears.co.uk

Enquiries via email or messenger

info@cneifiocorwenshears.co.uk

Facebook - Cneifio Corwen Shears

E.F. All classes £20

Draw taken on 1st entered, last heat system, any
late entries might result in not competing.

9.00am

Novice Wool Handling Heats
Intermediate Wool Handling Heats
Open Wool Handling Heats
Novice Blade Shearing Heats
Open Blade Shearing Heats
Traditional Blade Shearing Heats

3.00pm

Junior Shearing Heats
Intermediate Shearing Heats

7.00pm

Speed Shear
Open Shear

26.07.25

10.00am

Senior Shearing Heats
Open Shearing Heats

Date TBC

NISSA Full Wool Shears

E.C. 24.05.25

Shanes Castle Estate Antrim,
Contact John Murphy Tel: 07740 584 076

9:00am

Check In

Late entries subject to sheep numbers and with a £10 late entry surcharge on top of entry fee
Part of NISSA Circuit

01.08.25

Cneifio Bro Ddyfi

Venue: Clegyrddwr Farm,
Llanbrynmair, Powys SY19 7DY
Entries Via text to Ynyr Pugh 07955 189993

8:30am

Junior

1st £70 2nd £40 3rd £30
4th £25 5th £20 6th £15 E.F. £15
(Prize for Best Local Junior)

Intermediate

1st £90 2nd £50 3rd £40
4th £30, 5th £25, 6th £20 E.F. £15

12.30pm

Senior

1st £120 2nd £65 3rd £45
4th £30 5th £25 6th £20 E.F. £20

Open

1st £200 2nd £110 3rd £70
4th £50 5th £40 6th £30 E.F. £20

02.08.25

Brecon

Contact: Nia Davies Tel: 07506 972805
JTL Davies Tel: 07974351926 &
Ffion Jones Tel: 07800223295

Details of Entry Fees and Prize Money
will be available on the Show website:
www.breconcountyshow.co.uk

03.08.25

Oswestry Show

Oswestry Show Office on
01691 654875/654771

Class SS1 Junior

1st £55 2nd £45 3rd £35
4th £25 5th £20 E.F. £12

Class SS2 Intermediate

1st £65 2nd £50 3rd £40
4th £30 5th £25 E.F. £12

Class SS3 Senior

1st £90 2nd £70 3rd £45
4th £35 5th £30 E.F. £12

Class SS4 Open

1st £125 2nd £85 3rd £55
4th £45 5th £35 E.F. £12

Entries before closing date – gain free
show admission. Late entries taken on
day, subject to lamb numbers.

Competitors need to sign in at the shearing
tent by 9.30am and will receive a free
Oswestry Show singlet for their class.

05.08.25

All Ireland and Nations Shearing and Woolhandling Championships Clonmany Show

E.C. 08.07.25

Venue: Pollan Green, Ballyliffin, Co Donegal
Gerard Noone, Ard, Cloontagh, Clonmany,
Co Donegal. Tel: 086 0808161

Email: clonmanyagrishow@gmail.com

Entry details visit www.clonmanyshow.com
to download entry form.

This event is included in the
Northern Ireland Circuit.

Hosting the All Nations Wool Handling
Championships and All Ireland Open shearing
championships at Novice, Junior, Intermediate,
Senior and Open levels. Speed shear events.

Entries limited for each grade so enter
early on Clonmanyshow.com

Programme of events available on:
www.clonmanyshow.com

06.08.25

The Black Isle Show

E.C. 20.07.25

The Royal Bank of Scotland Silver
Tankard to the winner of the Northern
Circuit Shearing Championships.

The Mowat Perpetual Silver Challenge Salver
kindly presented by Ian Mowat, Esq. Ash Hill,
Evanton, to the winner of the Open Class.

A Perpetual Challenge Tankard kindly
presented by Messrs Wool Growers
Ltd, Evaton, to the winner of the
Intermediate Class.

A Perpetual Challenge Shield for the winner
in the Junior competition sponsored by Ace
Shearing Equipment presented by Foyers
Services Ltd. The Bifs Menton Shepherd
Perpetual Bronze Trophy and £10 to the
highest marked Ross-shire competitor.

All of the entry fees include £2 which
goes to fund the Circuit Competitions.

Strictly no late or replacement
entries will be accepted.

PLEASE NOTE: TIMINGS ARE APPROXIMATE
ACCORDING TO ENTRY NUMBERS

Class A – Junior

Class B – Intermediate

Class C – Senior

Class D – Open

4.00pm

Highland Region Champion Shearers
Restricted to shearers resident in Highland Region
1st £80 2nd £60 3rd £50
4th £40 E.F. £10

5.00pm

Open Hand Shearers
1st £100 2nd £50 3rd £30
4th £20 E.F. £10

5.30pm

Class A Juniors
1st £90 2nd £70 3rd £60
4th £40 E.F. £8

07.08.25**8.00am**

Wool Handling Competition
Finals held immediately after
1st £70 2nd £50 3rd £30
4th £20 E.F. 10

Novice Wool Handling

Please indicate on the form if
you are entering as a Novice
1st £20 2nd £15 3rd £10
4th £5 E.F. £5

9.30am

Class B Intermediate
1st £135 2nd £110 3rd £90
4th £80 E.F. £12

11.00am

Class C Senior
1st £160 2nd £130 3rd £110
4th £90 E.F. £15

1.30pm

Class D Open
1st £260 2nd £180 3rd £140
4th £120 E.F. £20

07.08.25

Burwarton Show

**Venue: The Showground, Cleobury North,
Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6RP.
The Show Office, Burwarton, Bridgnorth
WV16 6RP. Email: info@burwartonshow.co.uk
Tel: 01746 787535 or Will Dale Tel: 07772 782851**

**Free class entry – Entries accepted from
9.30am in the Shearing Marquee on the
Livestock Field on Show Day. Competition
commences at 10.00am prompt.**

Classes:

Junior
1st £50 2nd £40 3rd £30 4th £20

Intermediate
1st £60 2nd £40 3rd £30 4th £20

Seniors
1st £80 2nd £65 3rd £40 4th £25

Open
1st £120 2nd £80 3rd £50 4th £40

09.08.25

Llanfyllin

E.C. 07.08.25

**Show Secretary: Ms Sian Lewis Caeau,
Llanfyllin, Powys, SY22 5LF Tel: 07398 183065**

**Entries no later than 2 days before the show.
Entries will be accepted on the day provided
that there are sufficient sheep available. Every
shearer to pay admission to the showfield.**

9.00am

Junior
1st £80 & Tankard 2nd £60 3rd £50
4th £40 5th £30 E.F. FREE + Admission Fee

Intermediate
1st £100 & Tankard 2nd £70 3rd £50
4th £40 5th, £30 E.F. £2 + Admission Fee

11.00am

Junior Semi
Intermediate Semi

11.30am

Senior
1st £150 & Tankard 2nd £100 3rd £60
4th £50 5th £40 E.F. £3 + Admission Fee

1.00pm

Open
1st £275 & Tankard 2nd £150 3rd £90
4th £70 5th £50 E.F. £5 + Admission Fee

**Entry fee applies to one class only.
If entering another class admission fee (£14)
will be charged again.**

**Entry forms from Show Secretary or Shearing
Steward: - Mr Dyfrig Jones, The Poplars, Four
Crosses, Llanymynech. Tel: 07967 757246**

12.08.25

Anglesey County Show

E.C. 27.07.25

**The secretary, Anglesey County Show,
Ty Glyn Williams, The Showground,
Gwalchmai, Holyhead, Anglesey.
Tel: 01407 720072
Email: info@angleseyshow.org.uk
All classes to be confirmed.**

Blade/Machine Shearing Demonstration
Blade Shearing Competition
Speed Shear (approx. 4.00pm)

13.08.25

Machine Shearing Competition

17.08.25

Cwmduddwr Shears

**Secretary Audrey Lewis
Email: glanelan@btinternet.com
Glan Elan Farm, Cwmduddwr Rhayader.
Entries on the day.**

9.00am

Junior
Intermediate
Senior
Open
Welsh Lamb Circuit Finals

26.08.25

NISSA Lamb Shears

E.C. 19.07.25

Venue: Shanes Castle Estate Antrim.

**Check in 9:00am. Late entries subject to
sheep numbers and with a £10 late entry
surcharge on top of entry fee.**

Part of NISSA Circuit.

04.09.25

Bellac (Haute Vienne)

**Contact: Julien Dincq Tel: 0033 (0)686415480
Email: julien.dincq@live.fr**

8.00am

Entry - Check-in

8.30am

Machine Junior
Intermediate
Senior
Open
Heats

2.00pm

All Semi-finals & Finals

06.09.25

Dorset County Show

E.C 22.07.25

(Entries also taken on the day)

**County Show Office, Agriculture House,
Acland Road, Dorchester DT1 1EF
Email: info@dorsetcountyshow.co.uk
Website: www.dorsetcountyshow.co.uk**

Class 1 – Dorset County Junior Shearing
1st £50 2nd £40 3rd £30
4th £20 E.F. £10

Class 2 – Dorset County Blade Shearing
1st £50 2nd £40 3rd £30
4th £20 E.F. £10

Class 3 – Dorset County Intermediate Shearing
1st £80 2nd £60 3rd £50
4th £40 E.F. £10

Class 4 – Dorset County Senior Shearing
1st £120 2nd £100 3rd £80
4th £6 E.F. £15

Class 5 – Dorset County Open Shearing
1st £180 2nd £120 3rd £100 4th £70 E.F. £20

New for 2025 – Wool Handling
Prizes TBC.

07.09.25

Shearing Demonstrations

06.09.25

Moreton in Marsh Show

E.C. 15.08.25

Moreton Show Office, 5 Wychwood Court,
London Road, Moreton-in-Marsh,
Gloucestershire GL56 0JQ

Email: admin@moretonshow.co.uk

Tel: 01608 651 908

Enter Online at www.moretonshow.co.uk

9:00am

Class 1 – Junior Shearing
1st £50 2nd £40 3rd £30
4th £20 E.F. £10

Class 2 – Intermediate Shearing
1st £100 2nd £75 3rd £50
4th £25 E.F. £10

1:30pm

Class 3 – Senior Shearing
1st £150 2nd £100 3rd £50
4th £25 E.F. £15

Class 4 – Open Shearing
1st £200 2nd £150 3rd £100
4th £50 E.F. £15

Entries before the closing date gain free show admission. Late entries taken on the day – subject to lamb numbers.

17.09.25

All Ireland Lamb Shearing Championships at The Ploughing Championships

E.C. TBC

Venue: Tullamore, Co. Offaly
Contact: hazel.crowe@gmail.com

8:30am

Check in

9:00am

Heats begin



Registered Instructors

England

Barratt A	School Cottage, Tisbury road, Fovant, Salisbury SP3 5JY	07977 129646
Bell A	Scarthlees, Swainby, North Allerton, North Yorkshire DL6 3DW	07966 809324
Bennett A	Glendale, Rowley, Consett, County Durham	
Brown R	Muncaster Head Farm, Eskdale, Holmrook, Cumbria	01946 723325
Cole R	Ashridge House, Grenofen, Tavistock, Devon PL19 9EW	01822 618924
Corbett D	Dykehead Farm, Rochester, Newcastle upon Tyne NE19 1RD	07821 921625
Coupland B	64 Brownlow Street, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 1HQ	07966 268890
Dixon R	Ash House, 59 The Green, Rawcliff, Goole DN14 8QF	07860 455712
Derryman A	Home Farm, Sidbury, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 0QE	01395 597836
Froggart J	3 Common Lane, Bednell, Staffordshire ST17 0SA	07889 411443
Gregory S	Denewood, Bingfield, Hexham, Northumberland	
Goodfellow E	Higer Silkhay Farm, Netherbury, Bridport, Dorset	07976 964655
Hartley S	Burn House Farm, Newton in Bowland, Clitheroe BB7 3EE	07966 719904
Harvey S	6 Greenvale, Timsbury, Bath BA2 0EW	07977 964655
Labruyere D	The Mowhay, Middle Hampt, Luckett, Callington PL17	07800 917636
Lacaster I	cold Coats farm, Pendilton Road, Wisewell, Clitheroe BB7 9BZ	07970 885706
Lee D	Broads Home Farm, Borrowby, Thirsk YO7 4RE	07974 686555
Odell E	Highfield House, Docking Rd, Tattersett, Kings Lynn Norfolk	07817 286995
Paewai G	Home Farm, Sidbury, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 0QE	07776 422499
Pannel, A	Roker Cottage, The Pike, Washington, West Sussex RH20 4AA	
Parish S	1 New Farm Cottages, Froyle Lane, South Wamsborough Hants	07767 765646
Percy A	Spring Hill, Jervaulx, Masham HG4 4PG	07812 136434
Potter N	Burton Holme Farm, Barmby Moor, York YO42 4EB	07930 272150
Rangeley J	99 Eversley Mount, Sherburn in Elmet, Leeds LS25 6AE	07590 319589
Robinson T	Duckmire Farm, Slaidburn, Clitheroe BB7 3ES	07816 976387
Ruby C	East Quethiock Farm, Quethiock, Liskeard PL14 3SQ	07977 512811
Schofield R	Brookside Cottage, Grunsagill, Tosside, Skipton N, Yorks	07563 701677
Stockdale A	21 Neville Road, Gargrave, North Yorkshire BD23 3RE	07743 271962
Steer, C	Oak Tree Farm, Modbury, Ivybridge PL21 0SB	07887 208122
Stevens G	Courtney Farm Cottage, Washfield, Tiverton EX16 9RE	07768 763468
Watson Z	Suffield Farm, Suffield, Scarborough YO13 0BJ	
Wear A	Fernhill Farm, Cheddar Rd, Compton Martin, Somerset	01761 221663
Welton S	Brick House, Burley Gate, Hereford HR1 3QS	07980 597692
Whittington R	Railway View Farm, Ash Lane, Notts NG15 8FJ	07787 501253

Registered Instructors

Northern Ireland

Adams R	67 Kinnyglass Road, Coleraine, Londonderry BT51 4NP	
Davidson G	40 Uppertown Road, Gleno, Larne BT40 3AE	
Davidson R	40 Uppertown Road, Gleno, Larne BT40 3AE	
Harkness Bones J	84 Largy Road, Crumlin, Co Antrim (Wool Handling)	02894 422518
Jones W	76 Rickamore Brae, Upper Templepatrick, Ballyclare Co Antrim	07581 081645
Montgomery I	45 Church Road, Glenwherry, Ballymena Co Antrim	
Perry T	106 Urney Road, Strabane, Co Tyrone BT82 9RU	
Robinson J	253 Longland Road, Claudy, Co Londonderry	07933 123608
Smyth R	23 Cam Road, Macosquin, Coleraine, Co Londonderry BT51 4PX	

Republic of Ireland

Collier R	Knockrobin, Camolin, Co. Wexford	00353 872 248042
Graham G	Ballyoughter, Gorey, Co Wexford	00353 872 569072
Lynch PJ	Coorleigh, Bonane, Kenmare, Co. Kerry	00353 871 485120
McGeown M	Drumnacarra, Ravensdale, Co. Louth	00353 8729 77534
O'Sullivan D	Coorleigh, Bonane, Kenmare, Co. Kerry	00353 8791 19560

Scotland

Andrew J	Rowanston, Crosshill, Ayrshire	01655 740578
Armstrong L	Burndale Cottage, Green Rd, Newbigging, Lanarkshire	01555 841218
Armstrong M	Shepherds House, Butterstone, Dunkeld PH8 0HP (Blade)	07919 193555
Baillie A	Broomfield Lodge, Ashgill, Larkhall ML9 3DH	
Bertram L	1 Carding Street, Symington, Biggar ML12 6LS (Wool Handling)	07400 776600
Cameron U	North Lodge, Wolflee, Bonchester Bridge, Hawick TD9 9TE	07967 708618
Campbell E	11 Keip Road, Strathyre, Perthshire	01877 384248
Craig W	Blendewing, Broughton, Biggar, BL12 5SG	07984 015215
Dickson W	Bedsheil Farmhouse, Greenlaw, Duns	07977 808116
Donald G	Woodside, Edingight, Grange, Keith AB55 6SY	07704 517163
Donald K	Woodside, Edingight, Grange, Keith AB55 6SY (Wool Handling)	07704 517163
Grant J	Swiney Hill, Lybster, Caithness	01593 721500
Lamb J	Rullion Green Cottage, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PU	07887 538304
McDonald J	Achuidhe, North Connel, By Oban, Argyll PA37 1RW	

Registered Instructors

McCullough K	Ashfield Cottage, Achnamara, By Lochgilphead, Argyll	07584 067439
O'Sullivan A	South Park house, Muthill Crieff, Perthshire PH5 2BA	
Rankin A	Edentaggart, Luss, Alexandria, Dunbarton, Dunbartonshire	01436 860226
Shaw C	West Lethans, Saline, Dunfermline, Fife KY12 9TF	07854 302117
Simpson P	1 Beechwynd, Westmuir, Kirriemuir DD8 5BA	07881 221445
Smeaton J	Dowhill, Grange of Elcho, Rhynd, Perth PH2 8QJ	
Stewart D	Mains of Dalrulzion, Blackwater, Blairgowrie Perthshire	07739 420308

Wales

Daniel G	Aber Gwydol, Penegoes, Machynlleth Powys	07977 257917
Davies I	Cilbronrhydd, Harlech LL46 2TW	07728 577307
Davies JI	Hill Farm, Slough Road, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2NH	07968 277781
Edwards W	Upper Penwaun, Llanddew, Brecon, Powys LD3 9TA	01874 623714
Evans G	Gelligarn Farm, Llanyre, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 6EY	01597 822965
Evans G	Bron Haul, Henllan, Denbigh, Conwy LL16 5DE	07787 522074
George I	Penywern Farm, Newcross, Aberystwyth	
Goldsmith T	4 Pentre Terrace, Boncath, Pembrokeshire SA37 0JN	07855 854733
Hamer C	Himant, Elan Valley, Rhayder LD6 5HS	01597 811413
Hughes A	Bryngido, Llanarth, Ceredigion SA47 0NU	07454 397407
Hughes R	Tuhwntirafon, Llanarmon DC, Llangollen LL20 7LH	07950 874817
Jackson E	Braich Ty, Nant Ffrancon, Bethesda LL57 3LZ	07771 622779
Jones A	Ivy House Walton, Prestigne LD8 2RF	07773 125471
Jones F	Plas Isaf Newydd, Glyndyfrdwy, Corwen LL21 9HW	
Jones H A	Llwyngwgan, Llangwm, Corwen, Clwyd LL21 0RN	01678 520354
Jones H W	Llwyngwem, Llanuwchllyn, Bala, Ynys Mon Gwynedd	01678 540655
Jones I	Dolyfelin, Llanafan Fawr, Builth Wells, Powys LD2 3ND	07870 903310
Jones W	Maes Y Deri, Ffairfach, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6PP	01558 824149
Maguire E	10 Llys, Melyn, Tregynon, Newtown, Powys SY16 3EE	07989 324445
Morgan J	Dryslwyn Uchaf, Dryslwyn, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA32 8RW	
Needham M	Esgaironwy Fawr, Talgarreg, Llandysul SA44 4XF	01545 580389
Price R	Llantrussa, Walton, Presteign, Powys LD8 2RP	01544 350438
Rees J	Goitre, Llanarth, Llandysul, Carmarthen SA47 0NU	01545 580253
Roberts D	Pen Y Bryn, Trofarth, Abergele, Gwynedd LL22 8DE	01492 650478
Williams E	Henfeddau Fawr, Llanfynach, Pembrokeshire SA35 0DB	01239 698638



Industry Guidance on Shearing

for Farmers and Shearing Contractors

Adult sheep should be shorn at least once every year to help reduce the risk of external parasites and to avoid heat stress. In the main, shearing is carried out to improve animal welfare rather than for the value of the wool which is negligible. This guidance has been produced to remind farmers and shearing contractors to work together and ensure that sheep are handled appropriately to avoid stress and injury during the shearing process.

Presentation of Sheep:

1. Prior to shearing, sheep should be kept calm to ensure the job can be done easily and efficiently.
2. Your handling systems must be designed so that sheep reach the shearers without stress or injury. Ensure experienced livestock handlers are on hand to assist.
3. Very full bellied sheep may experience discomfort when being shorn and will defecate on the shearing boards, making shearing more dangerous and clean fleeces harder to achieve. Take appropriate measures to ensure sheep presented for shearing do not have full stomachs. Achieving this will depend on several factors including the extent to which lambs are still suckling and whether lambs are weaned. Options could include penning without feed for at least 4 hours before shearing, or housing/yarding overnight with access to dry food and water.
4. Do not present the shearer with wet sheep.
5. Ensure that all sheep are clean of dags prior to shearing.
6. Ideally do not shear sheep until 8-12 weeks after lambing. Enlarged milk veins will make shearing more difficult and put sheep at risk.

7. If there are still lambs at foot, ensure that they are separated ahead of shearing and have had time to adjust.
8. Do not combine drenching, parasite control, or other procedures at the same time as shearing. This will increase stress levels, make sheep more difficult to shear, potentially waste money, and can cause harm to shearers if products are applied pre-shearing. Check any safe handling and application recommendations relating to treatments on the wool.
9. Be aware, if using a contractor, that your shearer could impose an additional charge for poorly presented sheep, which take additional, unnecessary time to shear.
10. When shearing sheep in the winter ensure that they are given adequate shelter until a covering of wool has regrown and weather conditions are suitable for turnout.

Facilities for Shearing

11. A safe, level environment is needed to shear. Attempting to shear on a slope is both difficult and more physically demanding.
12. Provide a protected and safe power supply.
13. If the weather is hot provide the shearing team and sheep with shade and water.
14. If winter shearing, protect the shearing team and sheep from wind and rain.

Using a Contractor

15. Check that your shearing contractor has a good reputation and shearers are suitably trained.

16. Shearers moving between farms can pose a biosecurity risk. Ensure shearers have cleaned down and disinfected before leaving the last farm and that they have changed trousers, singlets and moccasins. Farmers should assist shearers with cleaning and disinfecting procedures.
17. Challenge any inappropriate handling of sheep. Be prepared to instruct any shearer that may be behaving inappropriately to stop shearing. If the lead contractor is not present phone them immediately and explain any issues.

Shearers and Shearing

18. Treat all animals calmly and with respect.
19. Only use safe and well-maintained machines and equipment to shear.
20. Clean and disinfect equipment before leaving premises (to avoid spreading caseous lymphadenitis (CLA), scab etc.).
21. Change clothing and moccasins if moving between farms and report any obvious cases of disease or parasites to the farmer or person with responsibility for the flock.
22. Shearing is a very physical job. Take care that everything possible is done to protect the personal health and safety of everyone involved in shearing.
23. Never shear under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
24. Initial training and regular refresher training is recommended. This can be obtained from British Wool in the UK.
25. When employing new shearers check references, training awards and/or get personal recommendations, if possible. Ensure that novice shearers are properly supervised, trained and competent.
26. Overseas shearers and those new to the team must be properly supervised, until it is established that they are capable of shearing competently and professionally.

27. In the unlikely event of an animal falling ill or getting injured, ensure the team is prepared in advance. Discussions are needed between the farmer and shearers to put an agreed procedure in place.
28. If contract shearing, be prepared to charge extra for badly presented sheep, dirty sheep, sheep with full bellies that display discomfort, or poor handling facilities. Likewise be prepared to leave the farm if a safe and secure area for shearing cannot be provided.
29. Challenge any inappropriate handling of sheep whether by shearers or farm staff. Be prepared to leave a farm that has stressed, or badly presented sheep for shearing.

Shearing is hard work but if farmers and shearers can work together it can be done safely, efficiently, with high standards of animal welfare and can be a rewarding job, leaving all involved with a sense of pride.

Produced by...





National Association of Agricultural Contractors



Shearing 2025 Overseas Shearers Welcomed Back!

Uncertainty will sadly follow livestock contractors into 2025, as the current special exemption for bringing overseas shearers into the UK expires and we must renegotiate a new deal. The NAAC will be working with the Home Office and Ministers at Defra in January to press for the exemption to be extended.

The special concession was put in place in 2011, when border requirements made it impossible for our seasonal workforce to travel to the UK. Unfortunately, the border controls have only tightened making the paperwork and costs unrealistic for shearers (who may not have official qualifications) to come in for a few months. However, as we all know, shearing is an exceptionally skilled job, which takes not only training but also experience to build competence. Ridiculously there can be shearers with no paper qualifications who may be champion shearers!

The scheme has meant that the UK has been able to encourage non-visa national shearers from overseas (particularly New Zealand and Australia) to come for a short, limited, controlled period to ensure that sheep are shorn on time, thus protecting their welfare. Many of the shearers who travel are professionals, with number shorn approx. 200-400/day. These are exceptional rates and our overseas partners can help UK shearers get the operation carried out swiftly, within the necessary timescale and to high standards of animal welfare.

In Covid, of course, we did manage with purely UK shearers, and it was a huge team effort across the devolved nations to get all the work done. We were extremely fortunate that the weather went entirely in our favour and meant conditions were good to steadily keep plugging away with internal movement of UK shearers as the teams moved south to north. This was the exception rather than the rule and post covid we were delighted to gradually welcome back small numbers of shearers to help UK contractors.

The special concession has meant that non-visa nationals have been able to travel to the UK, between 1 April and 30 June. All those entering were only allowed to stay for a three-month maximum period (i.e. the latest expiry of leave would be 30 September), after which they were required to leave. There has been a paperwork trail to ensure that only valid operators enter the UK and then leave within the three-month window.

The NAAC will be lobbying hard to allow this continued, controlled movement of shearers to ensure that farmers can get their sheep shorn within the necessary timescales, safely and proficiently, to protect sheep welfare. We will keep contractors and farmers up-to-speed with developments.

If you would like any information on any of the issues covered please do not hesitate to contact me on jill.hewitt@naac.co.uk

Jill Hewitt, NAAC Chief Executive



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with key stakeholders
and supporting the UK
agricultural industry.



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