

WALES FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS CLUBS



COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 21st SEPTEMBER, 2021
VIA ZOOM, 7.00PM

MINUTES

CHAIRMAN: Miss Katie Court

VICE CHAIRMAN: Miss Sian Healey

IN ATTENDANCE:

Katie Court (Committee Chair), Sian Healey (Committee Vice Chair), Gwen Thomas (Eryri), Elen Williams (Glamorgan), Edna Jones (Ynys Mon County Organiser), Gwyneth Thomas (Glamorgan County Organiser), Meinir Owen (Eryri), Ffion Rees (Carmarthenshire), Sion Evans (Carmarthenshire), Delun Evans (Pembrokeshire), Deryn Evans (Brecknock), Emma Powell (Brecknock), Emma Rees (Brecknock), Tania Hancock (Pembrokeshire), Sioned Davies (Ceredigion), David Price (Brecknock Eisteddfod Chairman), Kate Thomas (Glamorgan), James Dixon (Radnor), Hefin Evans (Wales YFC Vice Chairman), Katie Matthews (Gwent), Eloisa Isaac (Montgomery)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mared Jones (Temporary Wales YFC Director), Rhianwen Jones (Wales YFC Competitions and International Officer)

C/01/2022 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Katie Court welcomed everyone to the first Competitions sub-committee meeting of 2021-22, and noted how good it was to see everyone in person at the Wales YFC AGM held last Saturday.

Katie asked for everyone to introduce themselves before proceedings begin.

C/02/2022 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were given by: Rhodri Lewis (Wales YFC Competitions and Finance Officer), Caryl Haf (Wales YFC Chairman), Meirionnydd representatives, Will Hughes (Ynys Mon), Esyllt Jones (Ceredigion), Rhiannon Davies (Ceredigion)

C/03/2022 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee Terms of Reference were shared on the screen. It was proposed that '2 x Representatives' should be changed to '2 x Voting Representatives' so that it was clear counties could send more than two representatives to each meeting, however only two would be allowed to vote on matters.

It was also noted that during the last year, the competitions committee has held more than the four meetings required on the terms of reference. Therefore it should state 'A minimum of four meetings a year'.

Proposed: Elen Williams (Glamorgan)

The committee voted via zoom and all representatives were happy with these changes.

C/04/2022 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were shared on the screen and were read and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Sian Healey (Committee Vice Chairman)

Seconded: Gwen Thomas (Eryri)

C/05/2022 ACTION POINTS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

C/06/2022 CORRESPONDENCE

NFYFC Competitions Update – Katie thanked all of the representatives that put forward their views on whether it should be a drama or pantomime this year.

Kate Thomas gave an update from the NFYFC Competitions Committee where she stated that Wales YFC would have two representatives going forward again this year and that the Entertainment festival would include pantomime.

All National finals are going ahead as normal this year although entries were noted as being low.

Competitions were confirmed for 2021-22 and NFYFC have started looking at the 2022-23 calendar. They have asked for suggestions for the craft competition and a replacement for the cube competition.

Meirionnydd Letter – There were apologies from Meirionnydd as they are holding their AGM tonight, however they have sent a letter asking for an extension to the Eisteddfod entries as their eisteddfod is due to be held on the 6th November. They stated they would send them in on Monday 8th November.

Mared Jones stated that we need to encourage members to compete and that we will need to offer some flexibility this year.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the decision was made that Meirionnydd would be allowed to send their entries to Wales YFC on the 8th November. It was noted that if any county submitted any late entries without prior approval, penalty points will be incurred.

C/07/2022 EISTEDDFOD 2021

1. Rules

An Eisteddfod meeting was held between Wales YFC Staff, Officers and Brecknock representatives last week. As a result there have been some changes to the rules. Due to covid, there will be no choir competition this year and all other stage competitions will have a maximum of 16 people (e.g. mime, sketch, recitation party).

It was also noted that only official Wales YFC accompanists will be used to minimise any risk, so set pieces must be in the office in time otherwise counties will incur penalties or disqualification if the items are late.

Covid rules will be added to the general rules and Wales YFC have a right to amend these rules at any point. These will include mask wearing, proof of vaccination/lateral flow on entry, etc.

Delun Evans asked if accompanists will be used for all competitions including the humerous duet. Chairman Katie confirmed this was the case and all competitors will have sufficient practice time with their accompanist before going on stage.

Clwyd asked whether the new Parti Cerdd Dant piece is 1 or 2 voice. The new set piece has been circulated and David Price will confirm with Wales YFC whether it's a one or two voice party and any update will be sent out to counties via email.

Brecknock asked whether we can have English words for the composition competition. In the past it has only been welsh words, however David confirmed if the committee wanted English words, he would source this for competitors. After some discussion from the committee, a vote took place and it was agreed that due to the timescale, it was not feasible to offer English words this year, however in the future an English option should be offered.

2. COVID 19

It was noted that for covid purposes there will be restrictions in place at this year's Eisteddfod event. These will include ticketed entry, and tickets will be available online before the event. We will also be asking for proof of vaccination or a negative lateral flow test for everyone attending. There will be a one way system throughout the venue, masks will be required and there will be regular ventilation breaks throughout the day. These are all subject to change, and Wales have the right to amend these at any time.

Ceredigion asked what the capacity of Pafiliwn Bont was, and what capacity Wales YFC were looking at in terms of the event. It was noted that Wales YFC are still waiting to hear from the venue as to their policies but Wales YFC will look to make a decision as soon as possible and let counties know.

C/08/2022 TO REVIEW RECENT COMPETITIONS

Katie opened the floor to ask if they had any feedback for any of the following competition. Feedback was noted as follows;

1. Virtual Royal Welsh Show
There was no feedback given.

2. Agri Day
Members were glad to be back in person, however thought the day was too spread out physically and that competitions should try to be held as close together as possible so that people have the chance to see all competitions.

Dairy judging was done via zoom without prior knowledge to the competitors. Some members were disappointed and felt if the competition could not be held in person, then it should not be part of the competition.

The Beef judging was held quite far away from the showground, could we try and find closer venues in the future.

Mared Jones stated that getting stock to the competition days is getting more difficult and asked the committee to consider putting a contingency plan in place for future events. A suggestion of Breeding Ewes was considered. Katie Court asked representatives to take this back to their counties and to ask members what they would like to see if certain stock could not be sourced for competition days in the future.

Sian Healey suggested that a steward should be at any external venues at all times during a competition, in order for the competition to run more smoothly. Sian also thanked the Nixon family for the use of their tractor after the fencing competition.

3. Sports Day

This event was cancelled therefore no feedback.

4. Western Mail Trophy – Highest points in YFC activities

This was awarded to Montgomery at the Wales YFC AGM. Katie congratulated them on their success.

5. Beynon Thomas Junior Trophy – Highest points in junior YFC activities

This was awarded to Pembrokeshire at the Wales YFC AGM. Katie congratulated them on their success.

C/09/2022 TO CONFIRM ARRANGEMENTS

1. Winter Fair – 29th – 30th November 2021

The rules have been circulated to counties. Katie asked if there were any queries regarding the Winter Fair. Sian Healey asked if tickets would be given to competitors as normal, Marek Jones confirmed this would be the case however Wales YFC will need names and contact numbers for track and trace purposes. If any counties need to substitute competitors, Wales YFC will need to be made aware as soon as possible.

The Baby Beef and Prime Lamb rules include the invite to Shropshire, Herefordshire and Cheshire to compete. Katie asked whether representatives were happy to open up any other competitions as per previous years.

Some members felt it would be safer not to invite the other counties to compete in any additional competitions whilst the covid pandemic is ongoing, and that it could be offered to them next year if restrictions allow.

After discussions, a vote was taken and it was agreed that only the Baby Beef and Prime Lamb would be offered to the three English counties.

2. Entertainment Feast – 5th-6th March 2022

The committee was reminded that the Entertainment feast was in the South this year. Wales YFC have received quotes for the entertainment venue and are as follows;

The Princess Royal, Port Talbot - This quote is based on 10hrs hire per day.

Theatre Hire	£1700 @ £85 per hr
Theatre Tech	£600 @ £30 per hr, includes all house lighting & Technician
Sound Tech	£600 @ £30 per hr, includes all house PA & Technician
FOH Stewards	£450 @ £15 per hour, minimum of three stewards for the shows. (based on 5 hrs per night)
VAT	£670
Total	£4020

NCC Newport - £8000 including VAT for one day or £5000 per day for 2 days

Dolman Theatre, Newport – Not Available for our dates

Ffwrnes, Llanelli – Not available for our dates

Other venues were suggested by the committee, however after a long discussion a vote was held and the 2022 Pantomime Competition will be held in The Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot.

3. Sports Day – 19th June 2022

Katie stated that we need to begin arranging Sports Day for 2022. So far the competitions from National are Ladies Rush Hockey, Ultimate Frisbee and Mens Dodgeball, however Wales YFC normally add some extra competitions.

Katie requested that representatives take this back to the members to ask what they would like to see at the next Wales YFC Sports Day. Competitions will be confirmed in the next meeting.

4. Field Day – 23rd April 2022

Katie asked if everyone was happy to confirm the entry date for Field day as the 6th April 2022. All members agreed.

C/10/2022 WALES EVENTS

1. Competition rules

General Rules – The general rules were shown on screen, as well as any additional rules and penalties for certain competitions. Sian proposed the additional rules and penalties be added to the general rules, committee approved.

Elen Williams highlighted the importance of the wording with regards to the Rugby 7's competition. It was agreed to amend the rules to say members 'must', rather than 'should' have a second form of Valid ID for this competition.

It was also agreed to add the Spirit of Fair Play rules to the General Rules.

Covid rules should also be added and it was highlighted that Wales YFC would have the right to amend these rules at any point.

Ffion Rees noted that there should be a ruling to prevent any joint positions for the placing going forward to National. Committee agreed this to be added.

Due to the amount of changes, it was agreed that the new set of rules would be put to the next sub-committee meeting for approval.

Federation Display – Dwr Cymru are pleased that Wales YFC have included the theme of Welsh Water for the Federation Display competition however have some concerns regarding the format of the competition, with the rules stating that members can interpret the brief however they wish. Dwr Cymru offered to create a brief for members and judges to help with the competition. There were concerns from members that the brief would constrict the creativity of members.

It was agreed that Wales YFC work with Dwr Cymru to create a brief that would work for both parties.

2. COVID 19

It was noted how well Zoom meeting have worked this year, however Katie asked the committee what they felt would be best going forward and whether members would prefer face to face meetings, zoom meetings or a combination of both.

The committee agreed that for the forthcoming year, three meetings will be held in person alongside the council meetings, and any other meetings would be via zoom.

C/11/2022 MEMBERS WELLBEING

Katie asked if anyone had any particular wellbeing experiences that they would like to share.

C/12/2022 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE EXPERTS

(Maximum of six people to advise the Committee as and when necessary)

Experts can be elected as and when required, with the Eisteddfod Chairman having a seat already.

Katie reminded the committee that if anyone had any suggestions throughout the year of experts to invite, to please the Chairman know.

C/13/2022 AGENDA ITEMS AND DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

Agenda items to include:

- General Rules
- Stockjudging contingency plan
- Confirm Royal Welsh Show rules including Federation Display
- Confirm Sports Day competitions

Date for the next meeting was confirmed as the 12th October and will be held via Zoom.

C/14/2022 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OFFICIALS

1. Chairman

Katie Court thanked everyone for their support throughout the past year and asked for any nominations for Chairman.

Sian Healey of Brecknock YFC was nominated and elected as Chairman.

Proposer: Elen Williams, Glamorgan YFC

Seconder: Emma Rees, Brecknock YFC

2. Vice Chairman

This position was deferred as there were no nominations. Committee members were encouraged to think about the role. Katie Court agreed to support Sian Healey until the position could be filled.

3. Minute Secretary

Ffion Rees of Carmarthenshire YFC agreed to act as Minute Secretary for the forthcoming year.

C/15/2022 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Cywain Competition – It was confirmed that there would be cooking on the day at the Winter Fair. A moodboard is the only requirement and there will be a question and answer session with the judge on the day.

2. Age categories – It was confirmed that the stockjudging is remaining as four age categories for the forthcoming year.
3. Katie Davies thanked Katie Court for her hard work over the past year and wished her the best of luck in the future. Sian reiterated Katie Davies' words and thanked Katie Court for her support over the past 12 months.
4. Can all representatives ensure they are on their counties' representative forms in order to be added to the mailing list and Whatsapp Group

With no further business the meeting was declared closed at 21.33pm.