

Newsclip 2026



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Welcome To Newsclip 2026

Welcome

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Chairman's Welcome



Chairman's Welcome



I am deeply honoured to be appointed Chairman of BISCA. I have the privilege to work alongside our Vice Chairman John Ivor Davies, Secretaries Andy Barratt and Kam Dlay-Lewis, Treasurer Richard Schofield and all extended committees.

I would like to thank Andy Barratt for his valued contribution and hard work over the past two years as previous chairman. Sincere thanks to British Wool and all sponsors for their continued support.

Congratulations to Richard Schofield on winning the Personality of Year award. Richard puts in a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes, and this award recognises all he does for our industry.

2025 was a memorable year for BISCA Records. On the 4th of July Alun Lloyd Jones attempted a 9-hour BISCA Ewe Shearing Record. Unfortunately, it was not to be Alun's day, however he still shore a tally of 725.

The following day Huw Jones set a new BISCA 8 – Hour Solo Ewe Shearing Record successfully shearing 663 ewes. One-week later Gethin Lewis

and Llyr Evans set a new BISCA 8 Hour Two Stand Ewe Shearing Record shearing a combined tally of 1364 ewes. In addition, Gethin set a new solo record of 696 ewes.

In August Nick Greaves successfully set a new 8 Hour World Lamb Shearing Record, shearing 764 lambs. Well done to all involved.

As the shearing season approaches, I would like to congratulate everyone that qualified for this year's Golden Shears World Championships in New Zealand and wish all the local shows and competitors the very best of luck throughout the year.

Looking forward to a successful season ahead.

Tom Dunne
BISCA Chairman

Welcome To Newsclip



As I write this in January 2026 our finest shearers and wool handlers are in preparation to head to the Golden Shears in New Zealand where they will be representing the four home nations. Competition is sure to be fierce, and I wish them all every success.

Many of those representing our four nations started their shearing and wool handling careers on a British Wool training course. A legacy for which British Wool is rightly very proud. In 2025 more than 900 people attended a British Wool shearing course, the majority of which had little or no prior shearing experience. Our instructors have worked over many years to develop skills in the industry ensuring that our members have access to high quality shearers, that wool is well presented for sale and high animal welfare standards are maintained. British Wool is committed to continuing to support this.

As you may be aware, Richard Schofield retired as British Wool's shearing manager at the end of last year. We thank him for his contribution over many years. British Wool has put a new team in

place to deliver courses this season with six lead instructors across the regions of the UK. Kieran McCullogh, Lowri Williams, Andy Barratt, Hywell Wigley Jones, Ed Odell, and Willy Jones will be working with our experienced team of instructors to deliver a wide range of courses this summer to support as many as possible on their shearing journey. Whether you have never picked up a handpiece or are looking to hone your technique British Wool trainers are here to support you.

Wool prices have seen a significant increase over the last year. Auction prices are up by around 40% year and the outlook for member returns is more positive than at any time in the last six years. British Wool's auctions are increasingly competitive with exporters competing against our own UK based processors to secure wool. Prices achieved are consistent with those being achieved

Welcome To Newsclip



by our colleagues in New Zealand for equivalent types. This success has been underpinned by British Wool's licensee scheme which helps ensure that end brands and manufacturers are specifying British wool in their products.

With cross bred wool at its highest value for 10 years, and supplies tight around the world, British Wool needs to make it as easy as possible for UK sheep farmers to get their wool to market. British Wool opened several new collection centres over the last twelve months and intend to further strengthen our network this season. If you would be interested in hosting a wool collection on our behalf this season, please get in touch with your local depot.

Behind the scenes British Wool is also working with other industry stakeholders such as the NSA, NFU and NAAC to lobby on behalf of the industry to ensure that shearers can continue to travel to develop their skills and experience.

May I wish you all a successful shearing season.

Andrew Hogley
British Wool CEO

60 seconds with Llyr Jones



FACT FILE

Birthday: 18th February 1998

Hometown: Llanrwst, Conwy County Borough, Wales

Farming Background: Grew up on a family farm running Beef and Sheep

Competition Achievements:

Champion Shearer of Wales in 2025, won the Welsh open at Corwen Shears in 2024, first Welsh team to win a test over in New Zealand with Gethin Lewis, won the test in Falklands with Gwion Evans in 2025, won Three Counties, Cothi, Black Isle in 2024 and Somerset show and Brecon show in 2025 and a few others

What motivated you to become a sheep shearer?

Watching Wales v New Zealand test in Royal Welsh and Corwen Shears and seeing my brothers doing it and travelling the world.

At what age did you start shearing?

18 years old.

What/who has been your inspiration?

Gareth Evans, watching him all over the show's represent Wales, seeing him race against the Kiwis was electric.

Matthew Evans competing and just a work horse in the sheds, and obviously David Fagan as he was something else in all aspect of shearing.

3 most important things for a shearer?

Work hard, listen to the right advice, never give up.

Best piece of advice you've been given?

Keep chasing your dreams, if something goes wrong other things will come right and at the end you will achieve what you want.

What Countries has shearing taken you to?

Wales, England, Scotland, Norway, New Zealand, Australia, Falklands, Isle of Man.

What is your biggest highlight?

Winning the champion shearer of Wales in 2025. Holding the 2 stand 9 hour British lamb record shearing, 836. Shearing 603 on Ewes.

60 seconds with Llyr Jones



What was your worst moment?

My worst shearing moment would definitely be failing the 2 stand 8 hours world lamb record in 2024 over in New Zealand.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

Still shearing and still competing all over the world.

Why do you like competing at shows?

It is a good social scene and seeing friends and there is no better buzz then being up on stage shearing in a final, travelling too so many different countries and testing yourself against them.

Ambitions for the future?

Still competing in the shows and still traveling the world, and hopefully add a few more records to my name and represent my country in the plan.

What do you do for fun/relax?

Playing rugby, golf and hunting; drinking with friends.

British Wool Shearing Courses 2026

British Wool's instructors provide shearing and wool handling training to support all abilities. Whether you have never picked up a handpiece or are looking to hone your technique British Wool's instructors are here to support you.

British Wool's courses are recognised across the world. Courses are tailored to individual ability. Whether you are an absolute beginner working towards a Blue Seal, an improver aiming for a Bronze Seal, an intermediate shearer looking to recognise your skill with a Silver Seal, or an advanced shearer aiming for a Gold Seal British Wool's tailored course content is here to help you achieve your objectives. Our instructors can assist you in shearing your flock more efficiently and effectively, in building the foundations for a shearing career, or honing your technique to compete at the highest level on a global stage.



You can book your course by scanning the QR code, going online at <https://www.britishwool.org.uk/book-online> or contact British Wool's Training Coordinator.

England, Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland

Contact: BW Shearing • T: 01274 688666 (Option 6) • E: shearing@britishwool.org.uk

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

Ian Jones

Master Blade Shearers

Dan Kelleher

Elded Jackson

George Mudge

Patrick Moran

Gareth Owen

Pat Corrigan Snr

Andy Wear

Master Wool Handlers

Bronwyn Tango

Hilary Bond

Aled W Jones

Alison McNeill MBE

Meinir Evans

Gwenan Paewai

Angharad Jones

Rosie Keenan

Audrey Aiken

Shearing Profile

Martin Hopkins



“From a young age, I have been very fortunate to encounter many incredible blade shearers, locally and from all around the world, all of whom were generous enough to share many tips and tricks on how to improve.”

My name is Martin Hopkins, I'm 27 years old, from Drummin, Westport, in the West of Ireland. I started blade shearing at about 11 having watched my dad shearing our own sheep on the family farm. Soon after, I began competing in some local competitions, it was while shearing in the Novice All Ireland at the World Shearing Championships in Gorey in 2014 that inspired me to really get into competition shearing with the hope of someday shearing for my country in a World Final.

From a young age, I have been very fortunate to encounter many incredible blade shearers, locally and from all around the world, all of whom were generous enough to share many tips and tricks on how to improve. Being able to take this advice on board and treating every day as a school day is so important as a young shearer. This is one of the most positive aspects of blade shearing, where you see opponents sharing knowledge with the hope of improving the overall standard.

I am really proud to have represented the Republic of Ireland a number of times at Six Nations events and at the World Shearing Championships in France in 2019. One of my most memorable experiences was winning the Six Nations alongside my brother James, at The Royal Welsh in 2023. Hopefully we can replicate this form as we represent our country together on the world stage in New Zealand in 2026 which is sure to be an unforgettable experience, one I could have only dreamed of when I started shearing in the local competitions at Darby's and The Larches.

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 2026 (Young Farmers Qualification).
 - b) As at the same date hold a British Wool qualification of a Blue or Bronze Seal and not reached Silver Seal. This can be checked with British Wool 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 Southern 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 British Wool 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, which have been significantly increased this year, to be as follows:

1 st	£525 + a Silver Medal
2 nd	£375 + a Bronze Medal
3 rd	£300
4 th	£262.50
5 th	£187.50

The remaining five competitors to be given £150 each.

2025 Final Results:

1 st	Rhys Williams
2 nd	Jess Parkhouse
3 rd	Tom Evans
4 th	Chris Ley
5 th	Eoghan McParland

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 www.woolmen.com



The Worshipful Company of Woolmen

Agricultural Shows 2026. Draft summary of planned Woolmen programme:

Balmoral Show, Northern Ireland 13th - 16th May

Prize and medals to be awarded
(times approximate)

Robert Camac award - Young Farmers award
2 junior shearers selected and two prizes awarded
1st £100 2nd £50

Bath and West Show, Shepton Mallet 28th - 30th May

Intermediate shearing - Bronze medal
1st £150 2nd £112.50 3rd £75 4th £45
5th £37.50 6th £30 - Best pen £67.50

Junior shearing - Bronze medal
1st £100 plus BW training Voucher
2nd £50 plus BW voucher
Both junior shearers selected to go
forward to the Royal Welsh to compete
for the Robert Camac award.

Royal Highland Show, Edinburgh 20th - 23rd June

Friday:
Young Farmers - Junior shearing - Bronze medal
1st £100 plus BW Voucher
2nd £50 plus BW Voucher
Both junior shearers selected to go
forward to the Royal Welsh to compete
for the Robert Camac award.

Junior shearing sponsorship
1st £150 2nd £97.50 3rd £52.50
4th £37.50 5th £15.00

Great Yorkshire Show, Harrogate 14th - 17th July

Past Master Andrew Dawson plans to attend
supported by liverymen Robert Allan, Irving
Wanett on Wednesday. The Master will
also be present on Wednesday.

Tuesday:
Junior shearing - Bronze medal - Open
1st £187.50 2nd £120 3rd £97.50
4th £75 5th £52.50 6th £30

Qualifying Junior winners
selected for Royal Welsh show.
1st £100 plus BW Voucher
2nd £50 plus BW Voucher

Intermediate shearing - Bronze medal
1st £270 2nd £135 3rd £112.50
4th £90 5th £67.50 6th £30.00

Wednesday:
Ladies Open shearing - Bronze medal
1st £270 2nd £135 3rd £112.50
4th £90 5th £67.50 6th £45.00

A lunch for Members of the Worshipful Company
of Woolmen and The Merchant Staple combined
is being arranged for the Wednesday. The
Master will be present at the lunch.

Royal Welsh Show, Llanelwedd 20th - 23rd July

Monday:
Young Farmers Welsh County Team
2 Bronze medals

Junior Welsh shearing - Bronze medal
1st £100 plus BW Voucher
2nd £50 plus BW voucher
These shearers selected for the junior
shearing at the Royal Welsh to compete
for the Robert Camac award.

Tuesday:
Junior WCOW FINAL and Robert Camac award
1st £575 + WCOW Silver Medal
2nd £375 + WCOW Bronze Medal
3rd £300 4th £262.50 5th £187.50
Remaining 5 competitors £150 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 13th November 2025.

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 £65 per day, and
invoices will be issued in December.

Tom Dunne BISCA Chairman, with John
Ivor Davies as Vice-Chairman, newly elected.
Richard Schofield will continue his role as the
Treasurer and Andy Barratt has taken up the
role of Competitions & Publications Secretary
with Kam Dlay-Lewis providing administrative
support. All other committees were re-elected,
please refer to the relevant Minutes for
full details of these.

Current Officers:

Tom Dunne - Chairman
John Ivor Davies - Vice Chairman
Richard Schofield - Treasurer
Andy Barratt - Competition/Publication
Secretary

The next BISCA AGM will be held on
Thursday 12th November 2026.

Executive Committee:

Tom Dunne (Chair), John Ivor Davies
(Vice-Chair - No vote - Area Judge 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 Grncher (F), Julie Resneau (F),
Richard Schofield (E) and 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 Andy
Barratt by letter to British Wool, Wool House,
Sidings Close, Canal Road, Bradford BD2 1AZ
or email: biscasecretary@gmail.com.

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 Andy Barratt or Richard
Schofield via biscasecretary@gmail.com or
Kam Dlay-Lewis via bisca@britishwool.org.uk
for cost and more details.

Judges Refresher Course 2026

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 suits your agenda.

The refresher course programme for 2026 will cover Machine, Blade Shearing and Wool Handling.

Refresher Course Programme

England

North England

Richard Schofield Tel: 07563 701677
Richard Schofield richardannis@gmail.com

3rd May 2026 at 10.00am, held at Nick Greaves Moorleys farm, Gayton Staffs ST18 OHW
Machine and Blade Shearing and Wool Handling.

10th of May held at Great Yorkshire Showground, Shearing Stand. Railway Road, Harrogate HG2 8NZ.

10.00am - Judges and Wool handling, all welcome, competitors and judges
Contact David Corbett 07821 921625.

From 2.00pm - Machine and Blade Shearing.

South England

Alan Derryman T: 07976 624611
2nd May 2026 at 2.00pm, held at Alan Derymans's Farm, Home Farm, Sidbury, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 OQE for Shearing & Wool Handling.

Andy Barratt T: 07977 129646
2nd May 2026, held at Firl, Lewis, East Sussex.

Northern Ireland

Date TBC
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
Date & venue TBC.

Scotland

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

Registered Judges

Election of Area Judges

Area judges now have defined areas. This shows each judge and the area judge in charge. 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	Thomdon Villa, East Worlington, Crediton EX17 4SY	07971 163792
B Churchouse M	Bluehays, Cheriton Fitzpaine, Crediton EX17 4JQ	07989 450307
Cole G	Trekemel 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 Davidson G	14 Belmond Park, Pensilva, Liskeard PL14 5QT	07899 952456
Goodfellow E	Higher Silkhay Farm, Netherbury, Bridport, Dorset	01308 488275
Mudge A	Meadowside, Tavistock PL19 9JT	07425 623488
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
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† **Baratt A** School Cottage, Tisbury Road, Fovant, Salisbury SP3 5JY **07977 129646**

Judges

Barr A 20 The Street, Firle, 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 Warnborough Hants **07767 765646**
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 **07563 701677**

Judges

B Bell A Scarth Lees, Swainby, Northallerton, North Yorkshire **07966 809324**
† **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, Gooles DN14 8QF **07860 455712**
Fox M Crosbythwaite Farm, Ulpha, Broughton in Fur LA20 6DY **07831 554059**
B† **Froggatt J** 3 Common Lane, Bednall, Stafford ST17 0SA **07889 411443**
Greaves K Moorleys Farm, Gayton, Staffordshire ST18 0HW **07970 448089**
B† **Gregory S** Denewood, Bingfield, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 4HR
Lancaster I Cold Coats Farm, Pendilton Road, Wisewell, Clitheroe **07970 885706**
Martindale M 3 Fern Croft, Casterton, Kirkby Lonsdale, Cumbria **07980 207239**
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
Mattravers H 58 Maythorn Road, Blurton, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 3AE **07817 422485**
Lewis J Alderleys, Malswick, Newent, Gloucester GL18 1HF **07766 708739**
Powers A Tyrells Firth Farm, Falcon Lane, Ledbury HR8 2JN **07866 256537**
Skinner S Ballachriwk Farm, Eairy Marown IM4 2HQ **07624 478257**
Christian P Margher-E-Kew, Mibernia, Mauguold IM7 1ER **07624 479866**

Creer D Ballaquinne A Beg, Lhergy Cripperty, Union Mills IM4 2AM **07624 438546**
Sloane S 6 Birch Drive, Peel IM5 1WQ **07624 478726**

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, Castlederg, Co Tyrone **028 81679319**
B **Crockett A** 21 Closemore Road, Castlederg, Co Tyrone BT81 7RF **028 81671331**
Davidson G 40 Upertown Road, Gleno Lame BT40 3EA **07761 697437**
Davidson R 40 Upertown Road, Gleno, Lame BT40 3EA **07790 014672**
Jones D 274 Seven Mile Straight, Nutts Comer, 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 BT42 2LX **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 3895678**
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**

Registered Judges

Hussey P	Bracaragh, Caherdaniel, Killamey, Co Kerry	00353 8796 38648
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, Carbuely, 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, Castlereagh, Co Roscommon	00353 8763 70351
Halloran T	Glentrague, 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, Cummer, 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 Inverness IV2 7QU	07597 912909
◇ Oliphant A	West Lyth, Lyth, Caithness	07747 842603

Area Judge – Southern Scotland

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

Judges

◇ Anderson D	Bamakill Farm, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8SQ	01546 602262
Andrew J	Rowanston, Maybole KA19 7PY	07711 084838
†◇ Armstrong M	Shepherds House, Butterstone, Dunkeld PH8 0MP	07919 193555
Baillie A	Broomfield Lodge, Ashgill, Larkhall, Lanarkshire	07971 284591
Bayen G	North Lodge, Wolfee, Bonchester Brisge, Hawick TD9 9TE	07778 906759
† Bertram L	Mains of Boquhan, Kippen, Stirling FK8 3JQ	07400 776600
†◇ Boyd W	Croftfoot, Sandsyford 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 407964
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	Drumbeig, 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
◇ 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 07773 994306

Judges

B† Hughes R Tuhwntirafon, Llanarmon D C Llangollen 07950 874817
 Jackson E Braich Ty Du, Nant Ffrancon, Bethesda, LL57 3LZ 07771 622779
 Jackson B Braich Ty Du, Nant Ffrancon, Bethesda LL57 3LZ 07785 092008
 Jones A Blaencwm Cerrigydrudion LL21 0SB 07837 746797
 B Jones B Gwastadanas, Nant Gwynant LL55 4NW 07801 355447
 B◇ Davies G Llech, Nebo Rd, Pentrefoelas, Betws Y Coed LL24 0AT 01690 770450
 Robin Jones R Tynyberllan, Penmorfa, Porthmadog LL49 9SG 07785 303530
 B Jones J F Ardd Gron, Ceunant, Caernarfon, LL55 4RT 01286 870749
 Jones R Maestruan, Llanellidan, Corwen LL15 2RN 07967 191231
 ◇ Lambie D Ystrad Bach, Llangwm, Corwen LL21 0PY 01490 420502
 B Manzini A Tyn Y Fron, Glanrafon, Corwen LL21 0HD 07813 693316
 † Owen G Cysgod Yr Hebog, Bedd Gelert LL55 4UY 07882 648599
 † Till R Perthi, Bedd Gelert LL55 4UU 07899 964949
 B† Till J Plas Ymwlich, Cricceth, Gwynedd LL15 0PW 01766 523712
 Evans H A Hengwrth, Rhydymain 07922 775265
 Morris D Bronant, Groes, Dinbych LL16 5SB 07721 717613
 Llyr R Coed Y Foel Ucha, Bala LL23 7NR 07985 285567
 Davies I Cilbronrhydd, Harlech, Gwynedd 07728 571307
 Jones E H Castell, Nantgwynant, Caernarfon 07859 888217
 Jones A Cottage 2, Tyn Y Mynydd, Llanellidan, Ruthin LL15 2RN 01490 413671

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 N Bryn Ysgallog, Burry Green, Gower, SA3 1HR 07970 447303
 Davies J T L Blaenllyh, 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 Penrhiwgoch, Beulah, Llanwrtyd Wells, Powys LD5 4UG 01591 610285
 † Jones A Ivy House, Walton, Presteigne, Powys 01544 350302

† Wool Handling Judge
 ◇ Referee B Blade

Jones D K Cornel Farm, Cilmery, Builth Wells, Powys LD2 3PB 01982 553246
 †◇ Jones T I Dolfelyn, Llanfan Fawr, Builth Wells, Powys LD2 3ND 01597 860393
 † Paewai G Home Farm, Sidbury, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 0QE 01395 597836
 B†◇ Price R Llantrussa, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2RP 01544 350265
 † Tango B C/O 27 Wyndham Street, Tonypany CF40 1EP 07740 554461

Area Judges – Mid Wales

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

Judge

B† Davies W Brynglas, Ponterwyd, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion 01970 890259
 Davies A W Nantcarfan, Pandy, Llanbrynmair, Powys 07759 833335
 Evans G Hendre Rhys, Trawscoed, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 4AT 07773 508856
 † Evans M Cwmfran, Cilycwm, Llandyfri, Caerfyrddin SA20 0TW 07903 876419
 Evans R Glanaber, Talybont, Ceredigion SY24 5DN 07790 446162
 B◇ Hamer C Himant, Elan Valley, Rhayadr LD6 5HS 07949 795921
 Hughes R Bryngido, Llanarth, Lampeter, Ceredigion SA47 0NU 07792 010627
 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 SY20 9LX 07813 003443
 O'connor I Llwyndiried, Ffarmers, Llanwrda SA19 8JB 07779 233043
 Rees H 1 High Street, Tywyn LL36 9AA 07733 038898
 Roberts B Dolbran, Dinas Mawddwy, Machynlleth SY20 9LX 07971 188108
 Williams G Tynllyn, Llanwnnen, Lampeter, Ceredigion 07980 323474
 Jones G B Barhedyn, Melinbyrhedyn, Machynlleth SY20 8SY 07791 527079
 Meddins E Rhiwdefeity, Staylittle, Llanbrynmair SY19 7BY 07712 564869
 James O Blaenddol, Borth, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY24 5LZ 07983 081555

International

† Wool Handling Judge
 ◇ Referee B Blade

Finland

Stiina J jenni.stiina@gmail.com 035 840 752 2936

Germany

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



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- ✓ **30+ years experience** of delivering shearing courses.
- ✓ Machine, blade and wool handling **courses available.**
- ✓ Supporting the **UK shearing sector.**
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SCAN TO FIND
OUT MORE

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 Wool handling. 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. sandals 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. (l)).
 - 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). With own pen man.
 - (iii) Put each sheep out 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 to BISCA.
- m. # Visiting overseas competitors must compete in the same grade that is stipulated by their own country, in the case of Wool handling competitions this will be at the discretion of the Wool handling 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 stopwatch 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 to 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 competitors 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.

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 misstruant 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 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 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

- 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.
- 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 woolled (10 – 12 month's 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 woolled 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 Wool handling 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 handpieces 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 wool handler. 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.

Rules

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 (10cm x 15 cm) – 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) Fleece is removed and either thrown or placed on a clean area before the board is swept. Board must be swept before the shearer steps out.
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 tabletop 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 competitors 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 of 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
Compactness and Shape Penalty on breaks in fleece showing tips wrong way.
2 points per OH
- c. Tuck-in and Secure.
DP-0-5-10
The Fleece roll is secured at 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 15 cm). There should be a clear distinction between the following:

- a. Dags.
- b. Urine stain - tail and pizzle.
- c. Locks - fragments of fleece brushed up, second cuts, clean crutch wool.
- d. Extraneous matter.
- e. Clean & Dry belly wool **FP 10 points**
- f. 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



Another busy year! Three British record attempts – 4th, 5th and 12th of July 2025. A big thank you to everyone who works and gives of their time behind the scenes for these record attempts.

First up was Alun Lloyd Jones 9-hour strong wool ewe record at Blaen Bach Farm. Referees were Andy Rankin, Conveyor, Tom Dunn, Dillwyn Evans and Brendon Kelly. By lunchtime the decision was taken to stop the record attempt as by this time the record was unobtainable. However, Alun continued shearing for the rest of the day to achieve a personal best.

The second record, on the 5th of July, Huw Jones attempted the British 8-hour strong wool ewe record. Conveyor, Mark Fox, Martin David, Tom Dunn and Gavin Stevens were the judges for this record. Huw had a successful day shearing 663 ewes.

Finally on the 12th of July Llyr Evans and Gethin Lewis attempted the two stand 8 hour British ewe record at Glan Elan Farm, Wales. Convenor was Tom Dunn with Martin David, Andy Rankin and Gavin Stevens as judges. The attempt was successful with 1364 ewes shorn. Llyr shored 668 and Gethin 696.

On the World Record front Martin Howlett attempted the 9 hour Marino lamb record. This was held in Australia. He set a personal best but did not beat the record which still stands at 664 held by Dwayne Black.

Simon Goss attempted the 9 hour strong wool ewe record on the 5th of January 2026 at Te Pa Station, New Zealand. He was successful beating the previous record, held by Matt Smith, by 1 ewe. The record now stands at 732.

Wishing all teams, heading out to Masterton in New Zealand, for the World Shearing Championships, the very best.

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



England

Affiliation of the Circuit

A Entry fee of £15 per person or £10 if received by 30/04/2026 is required to enter the Open, Senior and Intermediate Circuit (Open and Intermediate in Blade and Wool handling) affiliate 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:

1 st	10 points	6 th	5 points
2 nd	9 points	7 th	4 points
3 rd	8 points	8 th	3 points
4 th	7 points	9 th	2 points
5 th	6 points	10 th	1 points

Just on the open machine shearing competitions a bonus 1 pt awarded for making the top 6 and 2pt for winning the open final. Results will be collated by the English Secretariat.

Machine Shearing Classes-Open, Senior, Intermediate and Junior. The Circuit: North Somerset, Southern Shears, Royal Balmoral, 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 up to 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 Classes

Open, Intermediate and Novice

The Circuit: North Somerset, Southern Shears, Royal Balmoral, Devon County, Northumberland, 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 Classes

Open, Intermediate and Novice

The Circuit: Royal Welsh Show (2025) Royal Balmoral, Devon County, Staffordshire County, Northumberland, Royal Bath & West, Royal Three Counties, Royal Highland Show, Royal Welsh Show. (Royal Welsh show results 2026 to be taken forward to the 2027 circuit) Wool handlers 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 6 places in each category sponsored by NEMSA, Skipton Branch.

Scotland

The Scottish circuit is open to all classifications. All competitors wishing to compete in all sections of the 2026 Circuit must however be entered by 31st May with a fee of £10 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, Northumberland Show, The Royal Highland Show, Locheamhead Shears, Great Yorkshire Show, Corwen and The Black Isle Show.

Open Shearers must complete 5 Shows. Juniors, Intermediate and Senior only need attend 4 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. Additional shows of Angus Show and Echt have been added to the circuit for Juniors and Intermediates only.

Blade

Competitors participating in the competitions at Lesmahagow Show, Staffordshire Show, Northumberland Show, Royal Highland show, Locheamhead Shears, Great Yorkshire Show and The Black Isle Show. 4 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.

Wool Handling

Competitors participating in the competitions at The Royal Ulster, Staffordshire Show, Northumberland Show, The Royal Highland Show, Locheamhead Shears, Corwen, Royal Welsh Show and The Black Isle Show. 5 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. Novice wool handlers need only submit 3 sets of points.

Points will only be awarded to those entered in the circuit. Best placed at each show will receive 12 points and 1 point less per lower placing thereafter. 5 extra points will be awarded to all competitors entered into the circuit who reach the final.

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 Wool Handling Circuits are for Open standard Welsh competitors only. Please refer to the 2026 RWAS Shearing & Wool Handling Schedule for qualification details for the selection of Welsh Teams.

Welsh Open Blade Shearing Circuit

E.F. £5 by 13 May 2026
Competitors must compete at a minimum of 6 out of the 8 qualifying competitions.

Qualifying Competitions:

Staffordshire County Show; Llysfasi Shears; Royal Three Counties Show; Gelert Shears; Cothi Shears; Graig Goch Blade Tournament; Royal Welsh Show; *Corwen Shears - *Results from 2025 competition will be included.

Welsh Open Machine Shearing Circuit

E.F. £20 by 13 May 2026
Competitors must compete at a minimum of 7 out of 10 qualifying competitions.

Qualifying Competitions:

Balmoral Show; Devon County; Staffordshire County Show; Llysfasi Shears; Royal Three Counties; Epynt Shears; Great Yorkshire Show; Cothi Shears; Royal Welsh Show; *Corwen Shears - *Results from 2025 competition will be included.

Results from six out of the first eight competitions will be used to select the new 2026/27 Welsh Development Team.

Welsh Open Wool Handling Circuit

E.F. £5 by 13 May 2026
Competitors must compete at a minimum of 7 out of the 9 qualifying competitions.

Qualifying Competitions:

Devon County; Staffordshire County Show; Royal Bath & West Show; Llysfasi Shears; Royal Three Counties; Cothi Shears; Royal Welsh Show; *Corwen Shears; *Bont Shears - *Results from 2025 competitions will be included.

NISSA Northern Ireland Circuit

Circuit is 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	5 th	6 points
2 nd	9 points	6 th	5 points
3 rd	8 points	7 th	4 points
4 th	7 points	8 th	4 points

...and so on.

Bonus points at each competition:

1 for best board score
1 for best pen score in each class (both within reasonable time)

Eligible Competitions

May

Balmoral Show
Mountbellew

June

Ballymoney
Royal Highland Show

July

Omagh Show
Great Yorkshire Show
NISSA Shears

August

Clonmany Show

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

Competitors Diary 2026

The following pages list all the shearing competitions we have been notified of for 2026. 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 forward your results as soon as possible to bisca@britishwool.org.uk / biscasecretary@gmail.com 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.

Andy Barratt

Competitions Secretary

04.04.26

French Shears (Le Merle)

Merino Shears

Venue: Le Merle, 13300 Salon De Provence.

Contact: Louane Higelin Tel: 003362 947 6523

Start time 8.00am

04.05.26

North Somerset Show

E.C. 21.04.26

Secretary: Tim Ledbury, 'Our Offices'
4 Yeowood Farm, Iwood Lane, Wrington,
BS40 5NU. Tel: 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
1st £70 2nd £50 3rd £30 4th £20 E.F. £10
Kindly Sponsored by Fernhill Farm.

Class 2 Blade

Capped at 8 competitors
1st £100 2nd £60 3rd £40 4th £20 E.F. £20
Kindly Sponsored by Fernhill Farm.

Class 3 Senior

Capped at 16 competitors
1st £175 2nd £125 3rd £75 4th £50 E.F. £20

Class 4 Open

Capped at 20 competitors
1st £250 2nd £150 3rd £100 4th £50 E.F. £20
The Fernhill Cup kindly donated by Fernhill Farm,
will be awarded to the winner of class 4.

Class 5 Intermediate

Capped at 12 competitors
1st £150 2nd £100 3rd £50 4th £25 E.F. £15

Class 6 Junior

Capped at 8 competitors
1st £75 2nd £50 3rd £40 4th £30 E.F. £10
Kindly Sponsored by Rob Lee.

10.05.26

Southern Shears UK

E.C. 30.04.26

Venue: Copford Farm, Dern Lane, Waldron,
Heathfield, East Sussex TN21 0PN by kind
permission of The Gingell Family.

Enquires to Phil Hart Tel: 07717 054172

Email: phil.hart369@icloud.com

Facebook: [SouthernShearsUK](https://www.facebook.com/SouthernShearsUK)

All Entries on the Website:

southernshears.weebly.com

Enter online from your laptop or smart phone.

Enter early to guarantee a shear.

No entries accepted on the day.

E.F. £5. U16s free.

Prize Cards 1st to 5th to be
awarded in each class.

Booking In and to be on site by 8.00am

YFC/Junior/Intermediate/Veteran/
Women Competitors

Booking In and to be on site by 10.00am

Intermediate Blades/Open Blades Competitors

Booking In and to be on site by 11.00am

Senior/Open Competitors

All Presentations will take place at the end of the day.**Shearing vests supplied and sponsored by Homer Shearing.****8.30am**

Junior

Sponsored by British Wool, Bradford BD2 1AZ
1st £25 2nd £20 3rd £15 4th £8 E.F. £20
Junior Class followed by all other
classes as in order below.

Women

Sponsored by Lee House Farm,
Billingshurst RH14 0PF

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

Veterans

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

Intermediate

1st £40 2nd £30 3rd £20 4th £10 E.F. £20

Followed by

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

Followed by

Finals for Junior, Women,
Veterans & Intermediate.

Intermediate Blades

Sponsored by Blade Shear Gear UK,
Crediton EX17 5JQ

Prize vouchers from Blade Shear
Gear UK E.F. £20

Open Blades

Sponsored by George Mudge & Co.
Tavistock PL19 9JT

1st £60 2nd £40 3rd £25 4th £15 E.F. £25

Senior

Sponsored by Shearwell Data Ltd.
Putham TN24 7AS

1st £55 2nd £35 3rd £25 4th £15 E.F. £25

Open

Sponsored by Ernest Doe Power, Ringmer
1st £150 2nd £70 3rd £40 4th £30 E.F. £25

Followed by

Semi Finals for Senior & Open

Followed by

Finals for Seniors & Open

South East Plate

Sponsored by James Hamilton, Hole Farm Rams.

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.

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: 07717 054172
phil.hart369@icloud.com.**

**South East Area of NSA are holding a
competition for the Next Generation of
Sheep Farmers. All enquiries to Sarah Blake:
southeast@nationalsheep.org.uk.**

13–16.05.26**Royal Ulster Agricultural Society - Balmoral Show**

E.C. 17.04.26

**Royal Ulster Agricultural Society, Balmoral
Park, Halftown Road, Lisburn, Co Antrim
BT27 5RD. Tel: 02890 665225
E.O. 30.03.26**

For more details, please visit:
[www.balmoralshow.co.uk/competitions/
sheep-shearing](http://www.balmoralshow.co.uk/competitions/sheep-shearing)

13.05.26**9am**

Junior Heats

10am

YFCU/Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd
Novice & Advanced Sheep Shearing
Championship followed by YFCU
Wool Handling Competition.

1.30pm

Intermediate Heats
Junior Semis
Intermediate Semis

Followed by

Junior Finals & Intermediate Finals

14.05.26**9.30am**

Senior Heats
Royal Ulster National Shearing
Championship – Heats
Royal Ulster National Blade Shearing - Heats
Royal Ulster National Wool Handling – Heats

1.30pm

Royal Ulster National Wool Handling – Final
Seniors Semi Finals
Royal Ulster National Shearing
Championship – Semi Final
Senior Finals
Royal Ulster National Blade Shearing - Final

3.30pm

Royal Ulster National Shearing
Championship – Final

15.05.26**9.00am**

Open Blade Heats
Novice & Open Wool Handling Heats
Open Blade Semi Finals

1.30pm

Six Nations - Blades

2.00pm

Wool Handling Development Test - 3 Way
NI/Wales/Scotland
(1 open & 1 Novice)

3.00pm

Novice & Open Wool Handling - Semi Final

3.30pm

Open Blade Final

4.30pm

Novice & Open Wool Handling - Final

16.05.26**9am**

Open Heats

10.30am

Open Semi Finals

11.30pm

International Open Shearers Test

1.30pm

Open Final

2.45pm

Presentations

Part of NISSA Circuit

21–23.05.26

Devon County Show

E.C. 06.05.26

Secretary: Mercedes Pemberton-Matthews
Devon County Show, Westpoint, Clyst St Mary, Exeter EX5 1DJ. Tel: 01392 353708
Email: mercedes@dcshow.org
Website: www.devoncountyshow.co.uk

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

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

21.05.26**9.00am**

Novice Blade Shearing Championship
 1st £30 2nd £20 3rd £10 E.F. £15

Followed by

Open Blade Shearing Championship
 1st £90 2nd £70 3rd £50 4th £30
 5th £20 6th £10 E.F. £20

Followed by

Junior Championship
 1st £60 2nd £40 3rd £30 4th £20 5th £15 E.F. £15

Followed by

YFC Novice, Junior & Intermediate
 1st £25 2nd £20 3rd £15 4th £10 E.F. £10

Followed by

YFC Open
 1st £50 2nd £40 3rd £30 4th £20 5th £15 E.F. £10

Followed by

Intermediate Championship
 1st £120 2nd £90 3rd £60 4th £40
 5th £30 6th £20 E.F. £15

22.05.26**8.00am**

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

Followed by

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

Followed by

Senior Championship
 1st £175 2nd £120 3rd £100 4th £75
 5th £60 6th £40 E.F. £23

Followed by

Open Championship
 1st £350 2nd £210 3rd £160 4th £135
 5th £100 6th £70 E.F. £25

23.05.26

Isle of Man International Shears Show

Venue: Guilcagh Farm, Andreas, Isle of Man.**Facebook:** Isle Of Man Shears**Entries by Email:****isleofmanshearing@hotmail.com****Contact:** Phillip Christian Tel: 07624 479866

Junior/Intermediate/Senior &
 Open Machine Classes
 Wool Handling (subject to entries)
 1st £1,500

23.05.26 & 13.06.26

Northumberland County Show

Venue: Hexham Auction Mart, Tyne Green, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 3SG
Show Secretary – Mrs Kerry Robson - Email: kerry@northcountyshow.co.uk - 01434 604216 - info@northcountyshow.co.uk

23.05.26

Machine Shearing
 The Show Field address: Northumberland County Show, Bywell, Near Stocksfield NE43 7AB
 Show Contact: David Corbett Tel: 07821 921625

The Category's and entries fees are, Junior £15, Intermediate £15, Seniors £20, Open £20

13.06.26

To be held at: Bradford House Farm, Belsay, Northumberland NE20 0HA
 Categories and entries fee: Novice and Intermediate £15 , Open £20

10.00am

Wool Handling

1.00pm

Blade Shearing

Enter online at info@northcountyshow.co.uk / www.northcountyshow.co.uk
 Enter on the day at double the entries fee.
 Opening date for entries 01.03.26
 Closing date for entries 30.04.26

The show would like to offer the Shearing competitions to the Scottish and Welsh Circuits.

27–28.05.26

Staffordshire County Show

E.C. 08.05.26

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 direct.

On-line Entries (closing date: 08 May 2026) – Enter on-line with Entrymaster @ 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 England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales circuits.

27.05.26**7.30am Prompt**

Class 1. Wool Handling – Novice/Intermediate
Competitors to be present for the draw at 7.15am
Kindly sponsored by W B Daw & Son
The W B Daw & Son Novice Wool Handling
Challenge Trophy E.F. £15

Followed by:

Class 2. Wool Handling – Open
Competitors to be present for the draw at 7.15am
Kindly sponsored by Mr & Mrs N Cope
(NC Construction Ltd)
The NC Construction Open Wool Handling
Challenge Trophy E.F. £20

Followed by:

Class 3. Machine Shearing – Senior
Competitors to be present for the draw at 10.30am
The Derek Stubbs Senior Shears Memorial Trophy
E.F. £20

Followed by:

Class 4. Machine Shearing – Open
Competitors to be present for the draw at 12.30am
The David Brookes Open Shears Memorial
Trophy E.F. £25

Test: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland & Wales

28.05.26**8.00am Prompt**

Class 5. Blade Shearing – Novice/Intermediate
Competitors to be present for the draw at 7.30am
Kindly sponsored by Glenthorne Vets
The Glenthorne Novice Blade Challenge Trophy
E.F. £15

Followed by:

Class 6. Blade Shearing – Open
Competitors to be present for the draw at 7.30am
Kindly sponsored by George Mudge & Co
The George Mudge Open Blade Challenge Trophy
E.F. £20

Followed by:

Class 7. Machine Shearing – Junior
Competitors to be present for the draw at 9.00am
Kindly sponsored by the family of the late David
& Jean Short
The Wellies Project Junior Shears Challenge
Trophy E.F. £15

Followed by:

Class 8. Machine Shearing – Intermediate
Competitors to be present for the draw at 10.00am
Kindly sponsored by Nick Greaves Shearing
E.F. £18

Kindly Sponsored by Homer Shearing
each class – Best Pen marks (excluding Final)
– 1 Box of Combs

Full details of prize money and Sponsors
are available on-line/in 2026 Staffs Show
Shearing Schedule.

COMPETITORS PLEASE NOTE:

- COMPETITIONS COMMENCE AT 7.30am SHARP on Wednesday and 8.00am on Thursday.
- Please book-in, in person, at the 'Booking In' desk in Annex 1/Sheep Shearing Area
 - Check-in each day will be OPEN at 7.00am
 - Please refer to schedule for all 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 08.05.26
- Late entries / Entries on the day will only be accepted if there are sufficient sheep available. All Entries received following the closing date of 08 May 2026 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
- We may hold a couple of Tests – depends on available sheep and time – further details regarding Tests will be posted on Staffs Show Website, on WhatsApp and will be strictly by invitation only.
- 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 note Staffs Show is affiliated to BISCA and BISCA rules apply

In addition there are some specific Staffs Show rules as detailed on the Staffs Show 2026 Schedule, a copy of which is available to download from www.staffscountyshowground.co.uk

29–30.05.26**Royal Bath & West****E.C. 14.05.26**

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

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

29.05.26**9.00am**

British Wool Golden Shears Junior (Incl. The Worshipful Company of Woolmen Junior Competition)
1st £150 Lister voucher 2nd £60
3rd £50 4th £30 5th £20 6th £15

Prizes of combs offered by Lister Shearing Equipment Limited
2nd 3 Combs 3rd 3 Combs 4th 2 Combs
5th 2 Combs 6th 1 Comb E.F. £15

10.00am

Femhill Farm Novice Blade Shearing
1st £35 2nd £20 3rd £15 4th £10
5th £10 6th £10 E.F. £15

Followed by

Intermediate Blade Shearing
1st £60 2nd £50 3rd £40 4th £30
5th £15 6th £15 E.F. £17

11:00am

Worshipful Company of Woolmen
Golden Shears Intermediate
1st £25 + £150 Lister voucher 2nd £75
3rd £50 4th £30 5th £25 6th £20 E.F. £17



11:30am

Golden Shears Open Blade Shearing
1st £80 2nd £65 3rd £50 4th £40
5th £30 6th £20 E.F. £17

3.00pm

Blade Shearing Test
Prize Royal Bath and West Keepsake Tumblers
Invitation Only

30.05.26**8.00am**

Open Wool Handling
1st £80 2nd £65 3rd £50 4th £40
5th £30 6th £20 E.F. £17

Followed by

Novice Wool Handling
1st £35 2nd £20 3rd £15 4th £10
5th £10 6th £10 E.F. £17

Followed by

Six Nations Wool Handling
Prize Royal Bath and West Keepsake Tumblers
Invitation Only

9.30am

Royal Bath & West English National
1st £275 2nd £150 3rd £95 4th £70
5th £60 6th £50 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.

11:00am

Golden Shears Senior
1st £50 + £150 Lister voucher 2nd £150
3rd £100 4th £75 5th £60 6th £50 E.F. £23

2.00pm

Lister Golden Shears Open
1st £250 + £150 Lister voucher 2nd £250
3rd £150 4th £100 5th £75 6th £60 E.F. £25

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

31.05.26

Lesmahagow

E.C. 11.05.26**Contact: Dye Clark Tel: 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

12.00pm

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

31.05.26

Mountbellew Shearfest

Venue: Tullamore Co. Offaly**Entries: hazel.crowe@gmail.com**

Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Open,
Blades & Provincial Competition

04–05.06.26

Royal Cornwall

E.C. 01.06.26

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

04.06.26**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

05.06.26**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

05–06.06.26

Ballymoney Show

**Venue: Ballymoney Showgrounds,
4A North Road, Ballymoney B53 6BW.
Contact: Finn Butler Tel: 07968 818363**

05.06.26**5.00pm**

Blades & Wool Handling

06.06.26**9.00am**

Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Open
Part of NISSA Circuit

05–06.06.26

Cneifio Llysfasi Shears

E.C. 01.06.26

**Contact: Joe Mault Tel: 01978 267931
Email: cneifio.lysfasi@cambria.ac.uk
Facebook: Cneifio Llysfasi Shearing**

**Venue: Llysfasi, Llanfair DC, Ruthin,
Denbigshire, LL15 2LB.**

05.06.26

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

06.06.26

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

06.06.26**Angus Show**

Brechin Castle Showfield, Brechin Castle, Haughmuir, Brechin DD9 6RL.
Show Secretary: Arlene Alston
Email: theangusshow@aol.co.uk

Entries are also accepted on the day up until 10.00am in the Secretary's Tent.

Entry Forms will be available from the website: theangusshow.com

11.00am

Young Farmers
 E.F. Free Entry

11.30am

Junior & Intermediate
 E.F. £20

12.00pm

Senior & Open
 E.F. £25

12–14.06.26**Royal Three Counties Show****E.C. 29.05.26**

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

12.06.26**1:30pm**

Registration Opens
 Blade Shearing: Novice–Intermediate
 Blade Shearing: Open
 Blade Test

13.06.26**7:00am**

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

14.06.26**7:00am**

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

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

Shearing Singlets are kindly donated by R T Anthony.

18–20.06.26**Royal Highland Show****E.C. 12.05.26**

Entries open 18.03.26 on paper and online: www.royalhighlandshow.org
Please note sections may close sooner if they reach capacity.

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.

18.06.26

Junior Machine Shearing
 Young Farmers Shearing (entry via SAYFC)
 Intermediate Machine Shearing
 Blade Shearing

19.06.26

Open Wool Handling
 Novice Wool Handling
 Wool Handling Development Test (by invitation)
 Senior Machine Shearing
 Senior Machine Development Test (by invitation)

20.06.26

Scottish National Machine Competition
 Open Machine Shearing
 Open Machine Development Test (by invitation)

27.06.26**Locheamhead Shears - Scottish Blackface Shearing Competition Championships****E.C. 15.06.26**

Enter Online at lsbss.lite.events
Contact: Rhoda Keenan, 1 Keip Road, Strathyre, Perthshire FK18 8NG.
Tel: 01877 384684/07866472628
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 14th June 2026 will receive a free field pass which must be worn and shown at gate otherwise you will be charged gate entry fee which is non-refundable.

Entries close Sunday 15th June 2026 or as soon as previous numbers have been reached.

04.07.26**Cneifio Gelert Shears**

Contact: 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

04.07.26

Hanbury Countryside Show

E.C. 01.07.26**Contact:** Sue Farmer Tel: 07841 499660
Email: showmanager@hanburyshow.co.uk**Entries online via** www.hanburyshow.co.uk
Entries Open: 1st April 2026. 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**04.07.26**

Omagh Show

E.C. 27.06.26**3 Gillygooley Road, Omagh.****Contact:** David O'Neill Tel: 07751 147 985**9:00am**

Shearing, Blade & Wool Handling

Late entries accepted, sheep permitting, with a £10 late entry fee surcharge onto existing entry fee. Part of the ABP NISSA Circuit.

11.07.26

Epynt Shears

E.C. 26.06.26**Venue:** Blaenbwch Farm, Maesmynis, Builth Wells LD2 3HU.**Contact:** Tracy Powell or Elin Protheroe via email: epyntshears@gmail.com**Please follow our Facebook page for further information: Epynt Shears****8.00am**Junior
1st £200 2nd £100 3rd £75 4th £50 E.F. £10Intermediate
1st £400 2nd £200 3rd £150 4th £75 E.F. £10Senior
1st £600 2nd £300 3rd £200 4th £100 E.F. £15Open
1st £1500 2nd £600 3rd £300 4th £150 E.F. £20**14–17.07.26**

Great Yorkshire Show

E.C. 18.06.26**Contact:** Amanda Stoddart-West, Livestock & Entries Secretary, Yorkshire Agricultural Society, Regional Agricultural Centre, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8NZ.
Tel: 01423 546231**14.07.26**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**15.07.26**Senior Heats
Open Heats
Senior Semi-Final
Open Semi-Final
Senior Test
Open Test
Yorkshire Final
Senior Final
Open Final**16.07.26**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**17.07.26**

Sheep Shearing Demonstration Day

17.07.26

Northern Blades

E.C. 17.07.26**Venue:** Scarth Lees, Swainby, Northallerton, North Yorkshire.
Contact: Andrew Bell Tel: 07966 809324
Email: andrew.bell123@icloud.com
Open and Intermediate Blades**17–18.07.26**

Cneifio Cothi Shears

E.C. 22.04.26**Enter by text:** 07834 346604
Follow Cneifio Cothi Shears on Facebook for updates on competition times.**17.07.26****9.00am**Wool Handling & Blade Shearing
Novice Wool Handling
E.F. £8Intermediate Wool Handling
E.F. £10Open Wool Handling
E.F. £12Novice Blade Shearing
E.F. £8Open Blade Shearing
E.F. £12

Commencing with Blade Shearing Heats at 9am, followed by Wool Handling Heats. Finals after lunch.

18.07.26Machine Shearing
Junior Shearing
E.F. £10Intermediate Shearing
E.F. £12Senior Shearing
E.F. £15Open Shearing
E.F. £20

Followed by

Wales V New Zealand Test Match

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.

19.07.26**Graigoch Blade Tournament**

Venue: Himant Farm, Elan Valley, Rhayader LD6 5HS.

Secretary: John Clive Hamer Tel: 07949 795921

Email: johnclivehamer@gmail.com

Entries on the day.

3.00pm

Novice

Intermediate

Open

20.07.26**Royal Welsh Show**

E.C. 19.06.26

Contact: Mrs Tracy Powell, RWAS Ltd, Llanelwedd, Builth Wells, Powys LD2 3SY
Tel: 01982 554420 **Email:** tracy@rwas.co.uk
Enter online: 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 2026 RWAS Shearing & Wool Handling schedule for qualification details for the Welsh teams selected to represent Wales.

TPF: Total Prize Fund

Welsh Circuits

Please refer to RWAS schedule for full details.

E.C. 13.05.26

Welsh Open Wool Handling Circuit
E.F. £5

Welsh Open Blade Shearing Circuit
E.F. £5

Welsh Open Machine Shearing Circuit
E.F. £20

20.07.26**8.00am**

Open Commercial Blade Shearing – Ewes
TPF £450 E.F. £15
Final to be held on Tuesday 21st July.

The top 6 Welsh competitors entered the Royal Welsh Open Commercial Blade Shearing competition will qualify for the Champion Blade Shearer of Wales Final to be held on Tuesday. Competitors must enter this competition by the closing date.

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

Intermediate Commercial Blade Shearing – Ewes
TPF £240 E.F. £15

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

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

Novice Wool Handling Competition
TPF £285 E.F. £15

Intermediate Wool Handling Competition
TPF £350 E.F. £15

Open Wool Handling Competition
TPF £450 E.F. £15

21.07.26**8.00am**

Junior Championship
TPF £335 plus Lister Voucher E.F. £15

Intermediate Championship
TPF £420 plus Lister Voucher E.F. £15

2.00pm

Open Commercial Blade Shearing – Final
Top 6 competitors from the competition on Monday will compete.

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

Worshipful Company of Woolmen
Junior Competition
TPF £1100

22.07.26**8.00am**

Senior Championship
TPF £580 plus Lister Voucher E.F. £17

Open Championship
TPF £1,695 E.F. £20

Champion Shearer of Wales
TPF £1,260 plus Lister Voucher 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.

2.00pm

Six Nations Machine Shearing Championship

23.07.26**10.00am**

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

10.30am

Veterans Shearing Competition
61+ years of age, 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

Welsh Open Circuits

**Please refer to RWAS schedule for full details.
E.C. 13.05.26**

The Welsh Open Blade Shearing, Machine Shearing and Wool Handling Circuits are for Open standard Welsh competitors only. Please refer to the 2026 RWAS Shearing & Wool Handling Schedule for qualification details for the selection of Welsh Teams.

Welsh Open Blade Shearing Circuit

Competitors must compete at a minimum of 6 out of the 8 qualifying competitions: Staffordshire County Show; Llysfasi Shears; Royal Three Counties Show; Gelert Shears; Cothi Shears; Graig Goch Blade Tournament; Royal Welsh Show; *Corwen Shears
E.F. £5

Welsh Open Machine Shearing Circuit

Competitors must compete at a minimum of 7 out of the 10 qualifying competitions: Balmoral Show; Devon County; Staffordshire County Show; Llysfasi Shears; Royal Three Counties; Epynt Shears; Great Yorkshire Show; Cothi Shears; Royal Welsh Show; *Corwen Shears.
Results from six out of the first eight competitions will be used to select the new 2026/27 Welsh Development Team.
E.F. £20

Welsh Open Wool Handling Circuit

Competitors must compete at a minimum of 7 out of the 9 qualifying competitions: Devon County; Staffordshire County Show; Royal Bath & West Show; Llysfasi Shears; Royal Three Counties; Cothi Shears; Royal Welsh Show; *Corwen Shears; *Bont Shears.
E.F. £5

Welsh Lamb Shearing Circuit

Please refer to RWAS schedule for full details.

E.C. 19.06.26

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 23rd August 2026. E.F. E5

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, Anglesey Show and Cwmduddwr Shears.

Open: TPF £720

Senior: TPF £535

Intermediate: TPF £400

Junior: TPF £345

*Results from 2025 competition will be included.

24–25.07.26**Cneifio Corwen Shears**

E.C. 10.07.26

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

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 may result in not competing.

24.07.26

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

25.07.26

10.00am

Senior Shearing Heats
Open Shearing Heats

25.07.26**NISSA Shears**

Venue: Shane's Castle Park, Antrim BT41 4NE

Contact: Ellen Murphy Tel: 07754 020012

Part of NISSA Circuit

9.00am

Schedule TBC

31.07.26**Cneifio Bro Ddyfi**

Venue: Clegyrddwr Farm, Llanbryn-mair, Powys SY19 7DY.

Entries Via text to Ynryr 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

01–02.08.26**French Shears National Competition (Martel)**

Venue: Martel, 46600

Contact: Loïc Leygonie Tel: 003366 672 6122

Start time 8.00am

Speed shear Friday night

01.08.26**Brecon**

Contact: Alan Roberts, Society Administrator/

Show Secretary Tel: 01874 611881

Email: breconshow@gmail.com

Details of Entry Fees and Prize Money

will be available on the Show website:

www.breconcountyshears.co.uk

01.08.26**Oswestry Show**

E.C. TBC

Venue: The Show Office, Park Hall, Oswestry,

Shropshire, SY11 4AB. Tel: 01691 654875

mandy@oswestryshow.co.uk

www.oswestryshow.co.uk

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 made 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.

02.08.26**Cneifio Bont Shears**

E.C. 24.07.26

Venue: Pafiliwn Bont, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ystrad Meurig, Ceredigion SY25 6BB.

Tel: 07811 027050

cneifiobontshears@gmail.com

More information on the Cneifio

Bont Shears Facebook Page.

05–06.08.26**The Black Isle Show**

E.C. 19.07.26

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, Evanton, 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.

We have introduced a First Aid Fee of £1 for all competitors and this has to be added to the entry fees listed below.

05.08.26

2.30pm

Highland Region Champion Shearers Restricted to Shearers resident in Highland Region.
1st £80 2nd £60 3rd £50 4th £40 E.F. £12

3.30pm

Open Hand Shearers
1st £100 2nd £50 3rd £30 4th £20 E.F. £12

4.00pm

Class A Juniors
1st £90 2nd £70 3rd £60 4th £40 E.F. £10

06.08.26

8.00am

Wool Handling Competition
Finals held at immediately after.
1st £70 2nd £50 3rd £30 4th £20 E.F. £12

Followed by

Novice Wool Handling
Please indicate on the form if you are entering as a novice.
1st £20 2nd £15 3rd £10 4th £5.00 E.F. £7

9.30am

Class B Intermediate
1st £135 2nd £110 3rd £90 4th £80 E.F. £14

11.00am

Class C Senior
1st £160 2nd £130 3rd £110 4th £90 E.F. £17

1.30pm

Class D Open
1st £260 2nd £180 3rd £140 4th £120 E.F. £22

06.08.26

Burwarton Show

Venue: The Showground, Cleobury North, Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 6RP.

Contact: The Show Office, Burwarton, Bridgnorth WV16 6RP Tel: 01746 787535 Email: info@burwartonshow.co.uk

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.

10.00am

Junior
£50, £40, £30, £20

Intermediate
£60, £40, £30, £20

Seniors
£80, £65, £40, £25

Open
£120, £80, £50, £40

08.08.26

Llanfyllin

E.C. 06.08.26

**Show Contact Tel: 01691 648025
llanfyllinshowsecretary@hotmail.com**

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

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 show field.

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

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

Seniors
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

11-12.08.26

Anglesey County Show

E.C. 27.07.26

The Secretary, Anglesey County Show, Ty Glyn Williams, The Showground, Gwalchmai, Holyhead, Anglesey. Tel: 01407 720072 info@angleseyshow.org.uk

All classes to be confirmed.

11.08.26

Time TBC

Blade Shearing Demonstration/
Machine Shearing Demonstration
Blade Shearing Competition

4.00pm

Speed Shear

12.08.26

Time TBC

Machine Shearing Competition

22.08.26

NISSA Lamb Shears

E.C. 12.07.26

**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.

23.08.26

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

05.09.26

Moreton in Marsh Show

E.C. 14.08.26

Moreton Show Office, 5 Wychwood
 Court, London Road, Moreton-in-Marsh,
 Gloucestershire GL56 0JQ Tel: 01608 651 908
 Email: admin@moretonshow.co.uk
 Enter Online: 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.

05–06.09.26

Dorset County Show

E.C. 20.07.26

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

05.09.26

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 £60 E.F. £15

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

New for 2026 – Wool Handling

Prizes TBC

06.09.26

Shearing Demonstrations

16.09.26

All Ireland Lamb Shearing Championships at The Ploughing Championships

Venue: Tullamore Co. Offaly
 Entries: hazel.crowe@gmail.com

07.11.26

French Shears (Parc Des Expositions)

Venue : Parc Des Expositions, 86000 Poitiers.
 Contact: Julien Dincq Tel: 003368 641 5480

8.00am

Events TBC

Registered Instructors

England

Barratt A	School Cottage, Tisbury road, Fovant, Salisbury, SP3 5JY	07977 129646
Bell, A	Scarthlees, Swainby, North Allerton, N. 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	07970885706
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, S. 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

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, Up. 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 Rd, 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 872 977534
O'Sullivan D	Coorleigh, Bonane, Kenmare, Co.Kerry	00353 879 119560

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 St, 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 D	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 JI	Hill Farm, Slough Road, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2NH	079682 77781
Edwards W	Upper Penwaun, Llanddew, Brecon, Powys LD3 9TA	01874 623714
Evans G	Gelligam Farm, Llanyre, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 6EY	01597 822965
Evans G	Bron Haul, Henllan, Denbigh, Conwy, LL16 5DE	07787 522074
George I	Penywem 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	Bryngïdo, Llanarth, Ceredigion SA47 0NU	07454 397407
Hughes R	Tuhwntirafon, Llanarmon DC, Llangollen LL20 7LH	07950 874817
Jones A	Ivy House Walton, Prestigne, LD8 2RF	07773 125471
Jones F	Plas Isaf Newydd, Glyndyfrdwy, Corwen, LL21 9HW	
Jones H A	Llwyngwan, Llangwm, Corwen, Clwyd LL21 0RN	01678 520354
Jones H W	Llwyngwem, Llanuwchllyn, Bala, Ynys Mon, Gwynedd	01678 540655
Jones W	Maes Y Deri, Ffairfach, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6PP	01558 824149
Maguire E	10 Llys, Melyn, Tregynon, Newtown, Powys SY16 3EE	07989 324445
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
Till J	Plas Ymwlch, Criccieth, Gwynedd LL52 0PW	01766 523712
Williams E	Henfeddau Fawr, Llanfymach, Pembrokeshire SA35 0DB	01239 698638
Morris A	Gwernalltccwm, Aberedw, Bulth Wells, Powys LD2 3UP	07792 271972



Creating new demand

- ✓ **170 brands** in our licensee scheme.
- ✓ **Building consumer demand** for British wool rich products.
- ✓ **Drive sustainable demand** to maximise returns.
- ✓ **Support manufacturers and brands** that buy British wool.



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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.
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.

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.

Produced by...





National Association of Agricultural Contractors



Shearing 2026 Overseas Shearers

The annual question – will overseas shearers be welcomed into the UK this spring? Yet again we have uncertainty, but this year we have a hill to climb with the current Government policy on reducing immigration. We are currently working with the Home Office and Defra to try and reach a solution, supported by the National Sheep Association, NFU and British Wool.

Our aim is to maintain the special concession for overseas shearers, which was established in 2011. 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.

Since the scheme was introduced, the immigration process has tightened and it is impossible for overseas shearers to legally enter the UK to work, unless coming on the Youth Mobility Scheme. However, the Youth Mobility Scheme is limited to 2-3 years entry, with age limits and significant cost – on top of shearers already needing to pay air fares for a few months of work.

Whilst we do have a highly skilled group of UK shearers, it is difficult for them to gain sufficient experience unless they join the world circuit. If only shearing in the UK, they only gain a few months of shearing work each year. This means it is not sustainable as a job all year.

Having international shearers come to work in the UK also helps strengthen the skills base in the UK. Many of our best UK shearers have honed their skills by working alongside their New Zealand and Australian based counterparts, sharing best practice and improving their technique. This also works both ways, supporting best practice, good animal husbandry and high standards of animal welfare in the UK.

In 2025, the NAAC estimates 50-75 shearers in total entered the UK. Whilst this may not seem a huge number, the shearers are vital to many UK contractors helping to clear huge numbers of sheep in a few months, swiftly, within the necessary timescale and to high standards of animal welfare.

Due to the lack of UK resource and the seasonality of the operation, it is entirely necessary to fill this shortage from overseas. UK contractors are needing to get their shearing teams in place for the coming season, and it is essential that decisions can be made quickly to avoid animal welfare issues.

The NAAC will continue to lobby to retain this important concession. 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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