

Minutes of the Competitions Committee Meeting held on Thursday 15th March 2024
7:55pm at the YFC Office, Hay & Brecon Farmers.

	Agenda	Action for:
	Attendance – 16 Sian Healey (Chairman), Baden Davies (Vice Chairman), Ryan Watkins (County Chairman), Niall Evans (County Vice Chairman), Gwen Samuel (Federation Manager) Sharon Healey (BOM Chairman)	
1	Opening Remarks Chairman Sian opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. The Chairman congratulated everyone who competed at the county Hedging Match, Builth Wells YFC for gaining second place in the Wales YFC Drama Finals and who will now go forward and represent Wales and the County in the NFYFC finals on the 20 th April. Congratulations to Deryn for winning Best Male Performer and coming second place in the Senior Member of the Year competition and Connie who represented the county in the Junior Member of the Year competition. Also, a special mention to Tilly and Carrie for receiving nominations for Best Female Performer and Builth Wells YFC nomination for Best Technical.	
2	Apologies Elin Havard, Sam Davies, Stephen Matthews, Elin Protheroe, Sam Powell and Bryony Pritchard.	
3	Minutes Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 15 th February 2024 were read and signed as a true record. Proposed by Rachel Rees Seconded by Baden Davies	
4	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Junior Member of the Year competition – The Executive committee declined the committee proposal for the competition to be voided. Therefore, the results stand. It was agreed for the Competitions committee to set a guidance for Competitions Complaints, Results Errors and for stewards which will be discussed later in the meeting. b) Hedging Match – Sian was unable to attend. c) Promotional Sign – Executive committee approved; clubs can claim up to £150 towards expenses. Clubs must present receipts to the office when claiming. 	
5	Correspondence None received	
6	Feedback from the following competitions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Hedging Match – Excellent day, venue and host family were outstanding. The host family also donated prize money to the competitors, which was appreciated very much by the members. Libanus YFC provided tremendous refreshments. Coed Owen have kindly offered to host the competition next year, after speaking to host club Troedrhiwdalar YFC they already have a farm willing to host. Therefore, on this occasion we will decline Coed Owen offer. Entries – as discussed in previous meetings the office and competition stewards have had to work hard to get the entries this year to allow the competition to go ahead. It was raised in the Executive meeting that when approaching members/clubs can this be done across the board as they felt not all clubs had been approached and to be cautious when doing so to ensure continuity across all YFC Competitions. Future Matches – It was discussed whether the federation look to hold the competition alongside the Hedging Society. However, the committee raised concerns this may not work due to some members competing in open competitions and so may have even more of an impact on the YFC competition. Chainsaw Certificate – It was raised can the Federation look at arranging training. Gwen informed the committee that funding has always been available and courses through Farming Connect. Members need to take advantage of these opportunities. FH is willing to assist with this training and provide information to the office to circulate with the members. 	Office

To confirm arrangements or upcoming competitions

a) **Sports Day** – Brecon Leisure Centre has been booked, Brecon playing Field have not been booked yet, as depends on the entries if also required.
Umpires/referees – Names were received in previous meeting. They have not been approached yet. Once entries have been received, they will be contacted as may be able to double up and umpire two sports.

b) Rally

i) **Rules** – A draft copy was circulated with the committee and the following amendments were made:

Brecknock Beacon report – FH proposed for the Beacon to be bilingual, one report maximum of 500 words minimum of 250 words. Rather than submitting two reports and only the English version is judged. Seconded by Baden.

Rally Poster – Include Bilingual as optional and remove Powys from the address.

Promotional Sign – Include Bilingual as optional and remove Powys from the address. Also remove sign to be erected within Club area, just state ‘Sign to be erected by..’. As stated under matters arising, clubs can claim up to £150 towards expenses, receipts to be presented to the office when claiming funding.

Dancing – can we check Wales YFC rules with regards to times, is each dance Maximum of 6 minutes minimum of 4 minutes. Otherwise, committee happy to amend to Maximum of 3 minutes minimum of 2 minutes.

On the News – After thinking over the logistics of running this competition, both Sian and Gwen feel this competition will not work on Rally Day due to the timings and preparations and is better suited as a pre rally competition. The committee agreed to hold the competition pre rally on Friday 24th May alongside the Solo Singing and Dancing competition. The evening will start with the On the News competition, then alternate competitions.

Hair and Nails – The Committee agreed to remove this competition as unable to state specific gender in the rules. It was agreed for Scavenger Hunt to replace the competition, team of two members 28 years and over, 2 entries per club. Follow last years rules.

Shearing Commentary – Proposal to add this competition in memory of Tom Evans. The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society are also looking to include this competition into their programme.
One member, 28 years and under, to commentate on a shearer whilst shearing one sheep. 1 entry per club. Marks will be based on the style and knowledge of shearing.

Floral Art U16 – NFYFC have amended their rules, no floral foam is be used. The office is concerned that this is a whole new skill for members to learn and understand Radnor YFC have raised this concern with National as this is a junior competition which could be quite off putting for the members. The committee are mindful that they need to be encouraging members but also understand the need to support the use of eco friendly materials. The committee agreed to remove NFYFC rules and allow eco friendly floral foam to be used but note at the bottom of the rules that this will not be the case when going forward. Include the NFYFC rules so members are aware

Office

	<p>and the federation to offer support and training if required for the selected member to go forward to NFYFC final.</p> <p>Face Painting – To state member to paint member/club leader/ parent of the competing member. Rule to be in line with the Dressing up competition.</p> <p>Silly Senes – To add the following, competitors to inform the office of any allergies when entries are submitted. Member to compete at their own risk. Additional round will be added should there be a joint placing in the top three positions.</p> <p>General Rules – Paper document was circulated, the following to be amended/corrected.</p> <p>Point 5 – amend to ‘Team competitions, individuals marks will be disqualified if only one members of the team competes, with the exception of Stock Judging.</p> <p>Point 8 – To include ‘On The News’ competition on the 24th May, Venue Guild Hall, Brecon.</p> <p>Stock judging Date and venues to be confirmed.</p> <p>Point 20 – To state and include the ‘Competitions Complaints, Results Errors Standard Operating Procedure and Stewards Guidance’ will be followed.</p> <p>Point 25 – Remove ‘Who don’t turn up and stewards may be worried that your member has been in an accident!’ we feel this is not appropriate.</p> <p>Point 29 – No Phones – can we check how Wales state this in their rules and we amend.</p> <p>ii) Rally Judges Suggestions – Troedriwdalar have created a list which will be sent to the office soon, letters will be sent out Monday.</p> <p>iii) Other Rally Matters TOW – As discussed in previous meeting, proposed to purchase bibs for coaches to wear. Quotes are between £9.90 - £13.99 each. The committee were happy for the office to go ahead and purchase. The host club are looking to have a second ring so able to set up for the TOW and start immediately after the main ring. The office are conscious of the timetable and don’t want too much of a delay. It was also noted from last year the bad language during this competition, TOW Judges to be strict on this matter. In general, bad language is not acceptable and the federation have a Code of Conduct and Behaviour policy to adhere to. Photography – Ruth Rees has been booked, this year’s costings £200 plus travel expenses. PA System – the committee are concerned there are lots of competitions this year that require PA. Gwen is to speak to Andrew and go through the competitions and requirements and suggest a potential second PA company to help him. Create a Tik Tok Video – Wales YFC have introduced a new competition for Winter Fair, where the competitors are required to record and edit their video on the day. Should this competition run on Rally Day but judge the competition later on in the year? Just concerned other events are not big enough to able the competitors to record/film items. Due to Rally being busy the committee agreed to hold this competition at Achievement Day.</p>	GS
8	To discuss and propose Competitions Complaints, Results Errors Standard Operating Procedure and Stewards Guidance policy	

	<p>A draft proposal was circulated with committee following guidance from NFYFC and Wales YFC. (Please see attached paper copy). The committee went through the document point by point, there was a few matters raised which is to amended or included.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal Apology will be given to the competitor(s) on behalf of the BFYFC Competitions Committee. Deryn proposed this needs to be amend as it's not appropriate to include and state the committee when the matter hasn't been discussed as a committee. Can the verbal apology be given on behalf of the county officials team/chairmen(s). • Conflict of interest needs to be included, as this needs to be declared should the chairman competed in the competition or their club is involved. • Timescale – some points we need to include timescale. Scores sheets are not presented to members at a competition, therefore the matter/concern must raised within 48 hours of the results being publicly announced and available. • Priority of identifying the mistake – emergency committee meeting should be called or if a committee meeting is all ready arranged during the week following the competition. • Timescale – agreed the process needs to be dealt with in a matter of urgency however depends on the availability of those to discuss the matter. • Identity – can we ensure Club numbers are available at ALL competitions. <p>There were a few questions raised with regards to, if the steward/judge/officials have followed these guidelines, judge has signed the scoresheet, presentation completed, and the judge/competitor informs us of an error when does the competition close? The case would be reviewed, and the judge's decision is final so if there is an admin or identity error the results would be corrected despite if all processes has been adhered to and still and error.</p> <p>Copy including adjustments to be circulated with the committee, clubs to discuss and feedback any comments at the next competitions meeting. Chairman will then present the guidance/procedure to the Executive committee in May to approve, with the hope to adopt this guidance before Rally.</p> <p>Complaints procedure – a policy was adopted by the county back in 2009 which the committee were not aware of. The Chairman verbally went through the current procedure; some points don't comply with the General Rules. Office to circulate a copy to the committee members for clubs to discuss and feedback and comments to the next meeting. FH thanked Sian as chairman of the committee for her hard work on drafting this document together and getting the ball rolling ahead of this evening's meeting.</p>	
9	<p>Update from</p> <p>a) NFYFC – Dual membership has been approved; To be discuss in more depth at the next meeting. TOW – 4x4 hasn't yet been discussed at NFYFC, but Wales YFC are against the amendment, for representatives can the committee confirm Brecknock's decision. Federation is also against the proposal/amendment.</p> <p>b) Wales YFC – RWAS 2025 Competitions suggestions have been sent to counties, office to circulate with the committee and feedback to be sent to the county representatives ahead of the next Wales YFC Meeting.</p>	
10	<p>Date of next meeting – 25th April 2025</p>	
11	<p>Any other business</p> <p>a) Wals and NFYFC representatives – unfortunately there's been lack of information provided in some competitions folders of the competitors who have been selected to go forward and represent the county at Wales or Nationals finals which has caused difficulties in the office. To prevent further issues or error Chairman Sian has drafted a document which can be used in the competition folders which will be clearer for the Judge and Stewards to use. Committee agreed.</p> <p>b) English Brainstrust – The Committee were made aware one member who did not compete in this competition at county level has been asked by a club to join their</p>	

	<p>team to compete at Wales finals. Due to some members unavailability, competing in other competitions and the entry deadline date this was accepted by the office. Going forward for applicable competitions, the committee agreed, that the following processes is to be completed to avoid any upsets.</p> <p>Chosen Team Reserves Open to all members who competed in the competition at county level Open to all members/clubs</p> <p>If the office has more than one response when opened, then names are drawn out of the hat.</p> <p>c) NFYFC & Wales YFC Rules – The committee agreed that as a standard process for members going forward to represent the county at Wales or National, a copy of their rules are to be circulated to the members. At county the rules are sometimes changed to suit our county round and members are not aware and could be affected when going forward.</p> <p>d) Member of the year competition – committee are happy for the results to be released on the website now all matters have been dealt with.</p>	
12	<p>Agenda items for next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rally Rules • Sports Day • Senior Pool & Darts • Dual Membership • Competition Complaints, Results Error Standard Operating Procedure and Stewards Guidance 	
13	<p>Closing remarks</p> <p>Chairman wished all competitors the very best of luck at Wales YFC Public Speaking, Field Day and to Builth Wells YFC at the NFYFC Drama Finals.</p> <p>Reminders – Sports Day & Senior Pool & Darts Entries – 15th April Rally Entries – 22nd April Membership deadline – 17th May</p>	

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10:10pm.

Signed:

Date: