

HEDGING

68TH YFC HEDGING MATCH

Saturday 24th February 2024

Venue: Coed Owen Farm, Cwmtaff, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 2HY

(Entry / withdrawal date: 4pm Monday 12nd February 2024)

To commence at 9.30am prompt; to finish at 4pm.

Competitors to arrive at 9.00am, for a safety briefing at 9.15am, for the competition to start at 9.30am prompt. PLEASE SEE RULE 13.

RULES FOR SECRETARIES, COMPETITORS AND STEWARDS

Class 1- 28 years of age or under (Unaided).

One Member 28 years of age or under on the 1st of September 2023, will be required to stake and pleach or crop and pleach approximately 7 yards.

Competitors in this class MAY NOT receive assistance from anybody.

Class 2- Pairs 28 years of age or under (Unaided).

Team of two Members, both 28 years of age or under on the 1st of September 2023, will be required to stake and pleach or crop and pleach approximately 8 yards.

Competitors in this class MAY NOT receive assistance from anybody.

Class 3- Pairs 28 years of age or under & 21 years of age or under (Aided).

Team of two Members, one 28 years of age or under and one 21 years of age or under on the 1st of September 2023, will be required to stake and pleach or crop and pleach approximately 7 yards.

Competitors in this class MAY receive assistance.

PLEASE NOTE: The judge will take into consideration the amount of aid given to members. Also, the person aiding the members MUST sign a disclaimer before the competition commences.

Class 4 - Farmers Hedge. Pairs 28 years of age or under & 21 years of age or under (Unaided).

Team of two Members, one 28 years of age or under and one 21 years of age or under on the 1st of September 2023, to Hedge in the best and most workman like manner, approximately 9 yards.

Competitors in this class MAY NOT receive assistance from anybody.

Class 5 - Pairs 21 years of age or under (Aided)



Team of two Members, both 21 years of age or under on the 1st of September 2023, will be required to stake and pleach or crop and pleach approximately 6 yards.

Competitors in this class MAY receive assistance.

PLEASE NOTE: The judge will take into consideration the amount of aid given to members. Also, the person aiding the members MUST sign a disclaimer before the competition commences.

RULES



1. Competitors wanting to use Chainsaws can only do so if they produce a valid certificate of competence on the day. A photograph of the certificate is not sufficient.
2. Competitors using chainsaws must wear all necessary safety clothing & equipment. PPE to current standards must be worn whenever the saw is operated, no matter how short the time or how



infrequent that operation may be. Any competitors using a chainsaw without personal protective clothing will not be allowed to compete.

3. Competitors in Classes 1,2 & 4 may not receive assistance from anybody, including stewards. All stewards using a Chainsaw in Class 3 & 5 MUST have a valid chainsaw certificate which must be brought on the day.
4. Competitors competing in the aided Class (Class 3&5) will only be able to compete in this class for two (2) years, after the age of 16. If they have done two years, they must then compete in the unaided class.
5. Competitors to provide their own tools.
6. Competitors must not cut any necessary live wood from the hedge allotted to them.
7. Each member/team (in all classes) are required to prepare a written risk assessment/method statement, which is to be handed to the YFC Office by 4pm on Monday the 19th of February. Failure to provide a written risk assessment/ method statement or failure to comply with it; or working unsafely, will result in not being able to compete.
8. No turf to be cut more than a Yard from competitors' length.
9. On no account will any competitor be allowed to cut wood from other hedges. Failure to comply with this rule will lead to disqualification without warning.
10. Only stewards (who will be easily recognisable) will be allowed to help with falling of preachers or/and the joining of hedges.
11. No other helpers allowed by word or deed. Should a competitor be seen to be receiving help in any way, all stewards to be authorised to give warning to that competitor. (Two stewards to be in agreement that the warning is justified). Each warning to be reported to the Chief Steward. 10 marks will be deducted from Clubs Winter Points for each warning issued.
12. Stewards will give one warning only to any competitor mishandling a Power Saw. Any further misuse will mean disqualification.
13. The competition will only be held for 15 minutes. If a team has not turned up by then the competition will start. There will be NO extra time allowed for a late start.
14. **Notice of Withdrawal.** - it is each competitors responsibility to give the Federation Manager Notice of Withdrawal. If they do not do so, the club will lose 50 points off their overall winter points and they must find someone to hedge on the day, which can be either a member or non - member. If they cannot find anyone then county will arrange and invoice the club. They must withdraw from the competition 2 weeks before not to be penalised.
15. All competitors to be present for the competition safety briefing at 9.15am and will be required to sign a disclaimer prior to competing. For all members under 18 years of age the disclaimer must be completed by their parent/carer.

PLEASE NOTE:

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- **Health & Safety** -While every reasonable precaution has been taken for safety, the organisers do not accept responsibility or liability. Competitors & Spectators enter at their own risk.
 - Organisers reserve the right to alter the schedule owing to weather conditions or other circumstances.

Judges & Stewards Please Note: No joint positions for 1st - 4th Placings.

Entries to be submitted online by 12th February 2024.

WITHDRAWAL FROM COMPETITIONS

Clubs/ Members are asked to notify the YFC Office of any withdrawals 14 days prior to a Competition. **PLEASE NOTE: All withdrawals from Club secretaries/Members must be made by email or by telephoning the YFC Office. If telephoning out of office hours then a message should be left on the YFC Mobile phone.**

Please Note: That only members with up-to-date membership cards and are on the database in the YFC Office are eligible to compete. Members must apply online at least 5 Days before the competition.

PLEASE NOTE: If a member does not produce an up-to-date membership card at the competition, it will result in a £5.00 fine. The fine will be refundable only if they provide confirmation of membership within 7 days of the Competition.

General Rules apply to all competitions alongside the competition's rules.