

PEMBROKESHIRE FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS
County Competitions Meeting at Agriculture House, Haverfordwest
7th June 2017

Present:

Alwyn Evans (County President), Alice James (County Chairman), Non Thorne (Vice County Chairman) Karen Jones, Polly George, Eirlys Davies (Vice Presidents), Edna Davies, Rachel Jones (Co-opted), Richard Summons (Immediate Past County Chairman) Dill Williams (Immediate Past County President) Adam George, Jason Davies (Brawdyhayscastle) Stephanie Morgan, Liz King (Clunderwen) Iwan George, Dewi Evans, Delun Evans, Sian Medi-Evans (Eglwysrwrw) Jill Luke-Evans, Charles George (Fishguard) Steffan Evans, Rhodri Lewis (Hermon) Dan Morgan, Carl Evans (Keyston) Owain Lewis, Marged Simons (Llawhaden), Angharad Edwards (Llysyfran), Martha Perkins (South Pems) Hannah Phillips, (Templeton), Joanne Davies, Lucy Kiff, Aled Thomas, Jack Davies (Tiers Cross) Nia George (County Organiser)

Apologies: Dylan Williams, Delme Harries, Rebecca Smith, Katie Davies, Diane James

Chairman's remarks.

Non declared the meeting open and welcome everyone along to her last meeting as competitions chairman.

Since our last meeting it had been a full on time for members competing in various competitions and with notable success.

The Wales Public Speaking Day proved to be a fantastic day for Pembrokeshire YFC with all teams winning the English sections and now going on to represent Pembrokeshire and Wales in the NFYFC finals in July. We won the overall English Shield and also the 2nd in the Welsh shield. A fantastic day which was only made possible due to the hard work of our members and of course the fantastic team of trainers.

At the county field day kindly hosted by the Raymond Family Trenewydd we had a fantastic day. There was a good turnout in all stock judging and other competitions and with an amazing number of entries for queen, attendant and male ambassador the judges Michael Harries, Jan Mathias and Karen Jones in the Queen and attendants and Gwawr Lewis, Rhian Jones and Alwyn Evans in the male ambassador didn't have an easy task. Following a day of competing members made their way to Clarbeston Road Hall for the dance where Iwan George was named male ambassador and Jill Luke Evans was named county queen. The attendants were Christina Williams, Hannah Phillips, Lisa Davies and Joanne Davies. Congratulations to you all. Winners of the field day were announced with Clunderwen and Llysyfran winning the main award.

A fortnight later and members were taking a long road trip to Anglesey to compete in the Wales field day and what a day it was for Pembrokeshire YFC. Georgie Radmore Clunderwen was named individual senior Stockman with the team of Rhydian Bevan, Georgie Radmore, Llinos Ford and Rhys Griffiths coming first also. Clunderwen Senior Fencing team were placed 1st and the Junior Fencing team also from Clunderwen came 3rd. The formidable Efficiency with safety team from Llysyfran YFC did it again winning the competition with Caryl Bevan holding on to her individual award as the best first aider. Llysyfran's junior nature trail placed 2nd, the junior stock judging team 6th and the cubed exhibit came 5th. At the end of the day Pembrokeshire YFC took the top spot winning yet another piece of silverware!

Apologies for absence: Alun Griffiths, Cerys Jones, Gaynor Hancock, Aled Harper, Matthew Davies, Ffion Phillips, Fay John.

1. Minutes of the last meeting held on 8th March 2017

21st was noted in the minutes for County Eisteddfod however as the half term date is later it was noted that the 28th would be the 1st Saturday of the holidays. A discussion followed regarding the date of the Eisteddfod and it was agreed that the 21st is the preferred date for the County Eisteddfod as decided previously.

Minutes were signed as a true record.

2. Matters arising.

Following on from the last meeting we would like to take the opportunity to officially thank Mr and Mrs Mostyn and Dill Williams who kindly donated a stunning trophy to recognise the club with the highest number of points per member at this year's rally.

3. Correspondence.

No Correspondence

4. To receive the following reports of the 2017 County Rally:

(a) Chief Rally Steward, Assistant Chief Rally Steward & Competition Chief Steward

Edna Davies presented a report on behalf of Dylan, Delme and herself. Edna gave a comprehensive report and Congratulated to everyone involved in the 2017 YFC Rally - with a totally new layout, it proved to have been a tremendous success.

A great deal of work had been put in to rearrange it all and the standard of competitions and displays was very high. Lots of positive comments were given and how it was definitely an improvement. The stage was set in a focal point in the shed and 'hit the eye' as soon as one entered the building. Everyone had to walk through the shed to the seating area and therefore saw lots of lovely displays on their way. Edna went on to make the following points:-
The displaying of rally signs on the grass area on the showground proved a good idea - most clubs did realise that it was their responsibility to put them up on the Friday evening.
Having the main office as a central part of the layout was definitely better - we felt a real part of the proceedings and the whole buzz of the day.

Preparation on the Friday evening went well and having the stage and bar in place before the day, ready for the dance, was brilliant and helped greatly.

Clearing up also went well with the relevant clubs all pitching in.

Points to consider:

- Tug of War prelims on the Monday - clubs must take their rubbish home with them - this was particularly bad this year. The presence of the catering van that evening was a big success - diolch yn fawr.
- Tug of war - prelims and rally day - all members of the public must be outside the fenced area - only teams, coaches, and officials to be within the enclosed area.
- Tug of War - Consider having all juniors on Rally Day - this will help those with exams as they will only need to give up one afternoon rather than an evening for prelim and afternoon on Rally Day and also, we may get more parents coming to Rally Day.
- Stage competitions - a comment from one club leader:
I appreciate the dancing was not a pre-rally competition this year due to previously smaller numbers entering, however there were many comments made this year that the Dancing was too long and needs to revert back to 3 or 4 teams on Rally Day, as it seemed to hold up the remainder of competitions finishing later despite an earlier start.
Do we have a third trailer for the stage area next year so we can have all stage competitions on the stage? This will mean we lose the area behind the stage but gain area in front of the stage.
- Return of cups by the first week of May was a good idea - it would be nice if they were all engraved by this date - a number of clubs returned them but then had to take them away again to have them engraved.
- Junior competitions - county need to discuss what we do with junior competitions - clubs struggle to get members to compete due to exams. Should we consider having only turn up on the day fun competitions for juniors and have Flowers, Cookery Craft etc. on a special Junior Competitions day but the results go to towards Rally? Do we have a split in Junior Age groups from 10 to 14 and 15 to 18 and have extra competitions for the younger age group?
- Floral competitions - stewards asked for a little more space in between the rows. The floral art judges have asked if our ruling "that if exhibits are not according to schedule it should be placed in last place" can be put in the general rules that are circulated to competitors and judges and not just in the Rally Day programme which they generally do not read.
They also suggested that: -

The new position of flower classes will be fine when the outer tables are placed a further 2/3 feet towards the centre of the building which will then give adequate room to competitors and judges as this year there was not sufficient room for the judge to walk behind competitors and watch them working.

- The movement area to the back of the Building (behind the stage) needs to be looked at further.

In closing Edna noted that huge thanks must go to everyone who was involved with this year's rally - it was a huge success and has given a new 'outlook' for this very important day in the YFC calendar. She thanked the movement on behalf of her co-stewards for allowing them to be part of this day.

Non thanked Edna for the report and thanked Dylan, Edna and Delme for their hard work in ensuring the rally ran smoothly and successfully.

(b) County Organiser

Nia apologised for any duplication in her report to what had already been said with regards to the rally. Nia thanked every single member who made this year yet another successful day showcasing

Pembrokeshire YFC at its best and underlining the extremely talented members in the county. Despite a miserable start weather wise it was great to see people reacting positively to the layout changes Nia noted special thanks to Dylan, Delme and Edna for allowing her to pitch some ideas for change and for running with those ideas, giving rally a fresh new look and in doing so making the transition from day to dance much more effective.

In a change to previous years dancing and singing were all held in their entirety on rally day which had its own challenges with timing but made for a constant source of entertainment on the stage. Although not having these at pre rally we still had two pre rally competitions that saw packed audiences at Llawhaden Hall.

As ever rally would not be possible without the help and support of stockjudging co-ordinators Robert Voyle and Richard Lewis who ensured that the four stockjudging competitions ran smoothly.

Nia also extended thanks to everyone who stewarded on rally day and in pre rally for ensuring that all competitions kept moving and that all competitors were given the best possible opportunity to shine.

Nia wanted to remind clubs that the Rally stewards, field stewards and each individual competition stewards offer their services to support the movement and would ask that they are shown respect for the time and effort they give on rally day.

Trophy returns - Alice is foot down approach was met with a fantastic response with all clubs bringing their trophies back by the time making life a lot easier in the office although I urge all cup and trophy winners to get their cups engraved sooner rather than later to avoid cups having to be returned for engraving.

The rally dance again was a success with everyone enjoying themselves and much of this has to be credited to Tom Bevan and the fantastic team of bar staff and stewards who helped on the evening with everyone pitching in and ensuring the clean-up took place on the night.

In conclusion I'd like to thank Dylan Edna and Delme especially once again for their hard work in supporting the preparation and running of the event and also to Alice and Non our county chairman and vice for all their hard work and support throughout the event, for their professionalism in handling issues and for showing fantastic leadership throughout.

Non thanked Nia for the report and felt it deserved a round of applause. Non extended her thanks to everyone who helped in anyway preparing for this year's Rally. Non went on to open the floor for comments regarding the rally both positive and negatives.

Many members liked the new layout and congratulated the team on bringing a fresh new look to the rally.

Jill Luke Evans raised an issue regarding the flower arranging competitions noting that she had not gone looking for the judge but had been told that the judge had been stopped from making their decisions.

Edna responded to the issues arising from flower arranging noting the following points from the day.

During the judging of the flowers our stewards came to the Rally Office expressing concerns that some floral exhibits were over size but the judges wanted to place them first.

The general rules states that any competition that 'breached' rules were placed in last position so I went to speak to the judge and gave them the following options:

- Place in last position as stated in the Rally Day General Rules.
- Reduce marks and note in the comments that as the exhibit was over sized they lost marks
- Allow the competitor to see if the exhibit could be alerted however that could cause further issues from other competitions as they will have had more time etc.

The judges were then left to discuss and agree their decision and they opted to follow the Rally Day General Rule which had already been implemented on the Rally Sign Competition.

Edna noted that there have been issues with flowers for the past three years at least and the above options have always been given to the judges when an infringement of the rules had occurred.

In this case it was unfortunate that three exhibits in three age groups were placed last due to an infringement of the rules and all were from the same club -They were not disqualified and still had their marks allocated to them for the overall flower cup.

A letter was presented by the club chairman and the officials discussed and backed the decision of the judge.

Later in the day Delme was approached by a parent and was told that he had influenced the judge which was very disappointing to hear.

A Reminder to members - Judges decision is final, and that they should not approach the judge following the competition.

It was also noted that this is an issue for the club to pick up with their trainer when giving them the rules that are sent out prior to the competition.

Eirlys Davies criticised St John's Ambulance who did not take control of a situation arising in the Junior Tug of War. Eirlys noted that it was the quick thinking of a trained nurse from their own club and a first responder from another club that meant their member received the correct duty of care. It was agreed that this would be feedback to the St Johns Ambulance team.

Tug of War weigh in set time. - Many members noted that the timetable gave a set time for weigh in. On the day the chief rally steward tried to change the time and that this was unfair.

It was agreed that the timetable needed to be reviewed and tightened for next year's rally.

Suggestion that Junior Tug of War take place on Rally Day.

Pre-Rally - It was noted that County Chairman Alice James had requested the junior tug of war be allowed to pull first but that the TOW association judge had decided to do the Ladies and Gents first.

County President Alwyn Evans congratulated the team of Rally Stewards and the County Organiser on what he described as a Stupendous Rally with a fantastic atmosphere. He went on to congratulate the clubs and members for their hard work and noted that once again the standard was of a very high standard.

Many people felt it was difficult to see the dancing area due to the volume of people in that particular area. - It was noted that this would be reviewed and one suggestion being considered is to have a third trailer to make a larger stage area to hold the competition.

Dan Morgan noted that there was a Class atmosphere for those competing on the dancing stage with the number of people around the area.

Rally Dance was discussed and it was noted that there was a problem with the Bands used with some members wearing the wrong coloured bands and therefore approaching the bar to be served. It was discussed to potentially have plastic bands with clips for next year making it harder to remove or pass on the bands

Eirlys Davies noted that the bar must close on time and that the disco must stop at the set time. She noted that it's Tom Bevan who carries the responsibility for the event and that it would be his licence that would come into question and essentially his neck on the line.

It was noted that the caterer outside was not happy and had left. Nia noted that he had spoken to Sian and said that he felt as if there was no support there for him at the end with bouncers and police not stepping in to control the crowd.

Eirlys noted that there were 4 bouncers outside at the end but drew the meetings attention to the times that the security had been contracted to and due to the dance and bar running over they were already doing over their contracted hours.

Breakdown of jobs for transfer from day to dance. It was asked that the jobs handed out to the clubs be reviewed to give all trophy winners a fair share of work to complete.

5. 2018 County Rally:

(a) Date

Corresponding date 26th May **Agreed**

(b) Venue

Parkhouse, County Showground, Haverfordwest. **Agreed**

(c) Rally Dance

To ask Tom Bevan and events committee to arrange dance. **Agreed.**

(d) Disco & Band

Rob Thomas disco. **Agreed.**

6. 2017 Royal Welsh Show.

(a) Representations to Royal Welsh Show

All winning clubs to attend Royal Welsh.

A draw was completed by the county president for the two stockjudging competitions where there had been a joint winner.

Draw for Sheep stock judging:-

U21

Martha Perkins

U26

Georgie Radmore

Non read out a list of representatives to the Royal Welsh Show and noted that we would love to close the year with another win so if Alwyn, Alice, myself or the office can help any teams representing Pembrokeshire going forward please don't hesitate to ask.

7. 2017/18 Dates rules and Judges

Non noted that NFYFC and Wales YFC have not yet released a full rules pack for 2017/18 however we do have a list of competitions for both Wales and NFYFC which means we can start discussing the 2017/2018 County Competitions Programme including Dates, Rules and Judges. Nia has drawn up a county Calendar which has been circulated with corresponding dates from this year. :-

Knockout Quiz: Agriculture House, 6th December.

Names were suggested and prioritised in the following order by the members:

1. Alun Griffiths
2. William Lawrence
3. Simon Richards

English Public Speaking: Pembrokeshire College 3rd December

Junior Reading:

Lydia Lawrence - Rachel

Heidi Reynolds - Edna

Trainers: Alwyn Evans

Junior Speaking:

Sue Crowley - Edna

Rebecca Mckay - Edna

Trainers: Katie Davies

Intermediate (Brainstrust)

Janet Mathias - Edna
Gill Lawrence - Edna
Trainers: Will Pritchard

Senior MACE Debating:

Beth Howells
Richard Cole
Trainers: Helen Hodges

Just a Minute:

Dill Williams and Helper

Junior, Senior Member and Situations Vacant
12th February 2018

Junior Member: Agriculture House

Laura Elliot
Alice James
Mair Evans
Reserve: Sian Bushel

Senior Member:

Chairman NFU
Carms Chair
Ceredigion Chair
Chairman FUW

Situations Vacant:

Cara Norman and Rebecca Voyle
Reserve: Dorian Williams

English Pantomime: Fishguard School
6-9th February Prelims Final 16th February

English: A discussion was had regarding using a GODA judge. Members were reminded that we won't have judge at Final. Members noted that although it wasn't essential to have a GODA judge they did feel that someone with experience of YFC entertainment competitions would be essential so that they have an understanding of what we do.

Jane Brace, Glamorgan
Richard Harries.
Hosts: NFU, FUW, Valero, PAS

Welsh Pantomime: Theatr Y Gromlech
2nd February 2018

Dafydd and Delyth Aeron
Reserve: Euros Lewis
Host Michael Davies Preseli

Welsh Public Speaking: Canolfan Hermon
11th March 2018

Reading/Darllen: Gwawr Lewis

Trainers: Alwyn Evans
Reserve: Eirios Thomas

Speaking: Miriam James

Reserve: Nan Llewellyn
Trainers: Arwel Evans

Intermediate Debating:

Dyfan James (Sir Gar)
Rhiannon James
Delyth Parry (Edna)

11. Mini Winter Fair

Location: Whitland Mart - J.J.Morris 11th Catering Peter John, Whitland Mart.

Lamb Rearing: (1 name and Reserve)

Andrew Phillips South Pembs

Reserve: Sarah Jane
Gareth Jones

Lamb Trimming: (1 name and Reserve)

Paul Monahan

Reserve: Russel Davies Rhydymwydd

Carcass Judging: (2 names and Reserve)

Andrew Rees and Geraint Bowen (Bethesda Meats)

Beef: (2 names and Reserve)

Jane Elliot and Nicky Williams
Reserve: Julian Williams

Lambs: (2 names and Reserve)

Gareth James and Graham Fussel (Llawhaden)

Reserve: Tony Williams Salbury (Aled)

Pallet Recycling: (1 name and Reserve)

David James - Ratford Bridge Theme (Non)

Scarecrow: Alwyn Evans - County President.

Christmas Wreath: (1 name and Reserve) - Come back to
4 x 4 Box Challenge Suen Andrews

Poultry Trussing/Jointing Revisit when we have full rules

12. Any Other Business.

Eirlys Davies informed the meeting that Rugby would be held at 6pm Friday Haverfordwest Rugby Club

Sunday STP 10am -2pm

Eirlys asked if members would like food to be available.

Eirlys agreed to contact Cegin Cawl Potch

Pool teams would be available for clubs who don't have enough members.

13. Date of next meeting - Wednesday 11th October 2017

Meeting Closed 10:10