

## PEMBROKESHIRE FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS

### Minutes of the Competitions Sub-Committee held at Agriculture House, Haverfordwest, on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018 commencing at 8:00pm

**Present:** 36 as per attendance book

**Apologies:** Katie Davies (Vice Chairman), Richard Summons (Stock Judging Co-ordinator), Lawrence Hancock, Delme Harries, Dylan Williams, Lucy Kiff, Kath Rogers, Karen Jones, Daisy Lewis, Sara Williams, Matthew Jones, Carys Ratcliffe.

#### **Chairman's remarks.**

Non Thorne welcomed everyone along to the meeting and gave Apologies on behalf of Katie Davies County vice chair who is unable to be with us this evening and as a result the meeting would be chaired by Non.

Since our last meeting it's been all about the entertainment with a fantastic show put on for the Pantomime Competitions. All 12 clubs in the county competed either in Welsh or in English which is a fantastic response to the competition. Congratulations to Hermon who won the Welsh section with Daniel Griffiths, Hermon named as Best actor and Lisa Davies Eglwysrwrw named Best actress. In the English Section the Overall winners were Llysyfran YFC with best actress going to Ffion Edwards, Llysyfran YFC, Best Actor to Steven Griffiths, Keyston YFC, Most Promising Actor named as Ed Roberts, Llawhaden YFC, Best Costumes awarded to Llysyfran YFC. Best Technical awarded to Brawdyhayscastle YFC and Best Act to Christina Morgan and Jonathan Morgan from Llysyfran YFC. We also heard that the new Junior member will be Tyleri Warlow from Llysyfran YFC and the new senior member will be Tania Hancock Keyston YFC.

Thanks to Jill George and Cerys Jones the outgoing Junior and Senior member for their hard work.

Congratulations also to Eleri George Keyston YFC on winning the situations vacant and she will now join the public speaking teams in Builth Wells on the 24<sup>th</sup> March to compete at the Wales final.

We had a county Pub Quiz once again and a lovely social evening was had by all.  
Thanks to Richard George for acting as Quizmaster.

Huge congratulations to members from clubs who have also been busy in the Preseli school Production of Mamma Mia! A fantastic show and members from many clubs in Pembrokeshire were taking the main leads.

Over 600 people came together for a special lunch to launch Pembrokeshire as the Royal Welsh Feature County. Great to see many members, leaders and friends of Pembs YFC in attendance and also taking part during the day as Guest speakers and entertainment.

A great social evening was had with our hosts Keyston YFC at the recent Pub of the month with our Karaoke skills being tested!

Unfortunately the beast from the east and Storm Emma have combined forces meaning that we cannot celebrate further success for Hermon and Llysyfran YFC at Wales level in the pantomime as yet. However it has been confirmed that the English competition will now be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> March at the Princess Theatre Port Talbot along with the senior and junior member competitions and the Welsh will be at the Brecknock Theatre on the 15<sup>th</sup> April. Good luck to all competing.

The competing continues this weekend with the Welsh Public Speaking day on Sunday and may I wish all competing clubs the best of luck

We would also note our congratulations as a County to Laura Elliott our current Wales Chairman who has now been elected vice chairman of NFYFC. We wish her the best of luck in her new role.

### 1. Minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January –

Non read the minutes and they were signed as a true record.

### 2. Matters arising.-

Nia asked for clarifications on some matters raised at the last meeting:-

Pallet recycling competition – The committee was asked for clarification as to where the competition would be held. A discussion followed and it was suggested that the Pre Rally Cookery evening was to include the junior woodwork.

Only one club has been in touch to check certificates for the welding element of the workshop skills? – It was agreed that a deadline of Monday would be set for this competition and only clubs with the relevant certificates would be allowed to compete. Competing clubs must be able to participate in all of the sections.

Only one club have expressed interest in entering the shearing – It was noted that only Eglwysrwr had expressed an interest and therefore Eglwysrwr would field a team for the shearing and wool handling at the Royal Welsh.

Only one club have expressed an interest in the Sheepdog trials therefore it was agreed to invite Eglwysrwr YFC to enter on behalf of Pembrokeshire at the Wales YFC final in Carmarthenshire.

Dream Machines was stated as a competition that would not count at the rally in previous meeting is that still the case as this will be the only competition on rally day that will not count to the overall totals and may cause confusion when people looked back at the overall rally day results. It was discussed and agreed to include the dream machines competition in the rally day.

Field Day can now be confirmed at Lower House Farm Spittal, Haverfordwest by Kind Permission of Mr John Jenkins and Family.

Tickets for Field day dance are now on sale at the county office and a reminder that tickets are limited therefore club's to order on a first come first served basis.

Food sales for the public who do we ask – Suggestion to ask Fishguard YFC for the day and Cegin Cawl Potch for the night.

### 3. Correspondence

ENTERTAINMENT FEAST

#### Email Wales YFC

Wales YFC would like to reiterate their sincere apologies that the Entertainment Feast weekend did not take place in the Rhyl Pavilion on the 3rd and 4th of March 2018 further to the postponement of the event to the adverse weather. – The rescheduled dates and venues along with timetables have been circulated.

#### Letter Margaret James

We have received a letter from Mrs Margaret James an avid supporter of the Entertainment competition who wanted to express her view that a finals night should be organised.

### 4. To review county entertainment

Non opened the discussion by noting that we had tried something new as a County. - We didn't know how it would go. Non noted also that she had checked the minutes from previous meetings and all clubs had been present. Members were here from all clubs, so you all voted and represented your members. She explained that the new format had been adopted but by no means did we intend to adopt this as a definite for ever & ever.

Non went on to explain that she thought the adjudicator was slightly put out that her services were not as such required at the final. Although it would have been lovely for her to be there and a warm welcome had been extended to her to attend. It's important to remember, that although she hasn't yet charged for

judging and she was initially available for the final that hasn't always been the case with judges being unavailable and with charges for accommodation and fees to consider as well.

On that note I don't want anyone getting their knickers in a twist, at least we can say that we tried it however we move forward.

Non then asked Nia to give a review from an organisational point of view on how the event had gone. Nia began by congratulating the 12 clubs stating that everyone had taken some part in the Pantomime competitions either in Welsh or in English. She congratulated the clubs for this and said it was a very impressive statistic to see 12 out of 12 clubs competing.

Nia moved on to the way the evacuation of the school was handled. She noted that her and the caretakers had had a debrief after the competition and had identified some key areas that need to be addressed in future. These include:-

(a) Ensuring that car parking duties are undertaken between set times and that stewards are still out there even after the first performances have started.

(b) Audience, Performers etc. Responding to any alarms or requests made to evacuate

(c) Chief Stewards, Officials and staff attending a briefing on the viewing night prior to the competition to ensure roles and responsibilities are in place.

(d) Identifying an assembly point to evacuate to if there is an issue

Nia closed by thanking Iwan George, Jill George, Katie Davies, Bill & Eirlys Davies and Robert Thomas for helping with the evacuation of the sight and for everyone understands to what had happened. Despite it happening we have learnt some positives from it.

Non went on to open the floor to the members to share their feedback on the event and how the competition had been run.

Members noted that one of the prelim nights had run extremely late and that perhaps in future with something like the pantomime we should look at only presenting 2 clubs per night and have additional night of Prelims.

Members noted that finals evening had felt very different with the competing clubs feeling that the motivation and drive to compete was not there. However it was also noted that the night had been a success with a good turnout in terms of audience. It was also felt that a week between the prelim and final was too long as the clubs going through were unable to do anything to improve on their performances. It was also noted that getting members to practice was difficult due to the fact everyone knew that regardless of the performance the decision had already been made.

It was noted that the clubs performing in the final should be motivated by wanting to prove why they were there and that we must bear in mind that regardless of how we run the competition people had paid to watch.

Other feedback included that junior members were confused as to what the final meant and why they were performing.

It was noted that all clubs would benefit from an extra week to improve and why should that be given to just three.

Having a judged competition ensures that those clubs are at their best going forward to Wales

A question was asked that if a final a week later was not undertaken - would then be a possibility of moving the date of the whole event both Welsh and English to give ALL competing clubs extra week of preparation time.

A point was raised regarding the use of haze or smoke machines and whether we should not allow them at the county final to avoid such a thing happening again

Christina Morgan apologised on behalf of Llysyfran YFC for the issue arising from the use of the haze machine and noted that the club had not intended to upset the running of the evening in any way.

It was noted that it would be good practice if county were informed what if any technical things are being used by clubs on the same sheet as they send in their cast lists so that the evening's chairmen can make any announcements to warn the audience.

By having this it would also allow a sentence to be added to the programme to forewarn the audience.

It was noted that some audience members have specific health issues that could have been affected badly and that forewarning them should be a health and safety issue.

It was felt that we cannot stop clubs from using technical things but that we need to provide as much info as possible for the audience to be able to react.

A suggestion was made to put together a simplified risk assessment as done by Wales to send to each competing club prior to the competition.

Following the discussion Non outlined three possible options to move forward and asked representatives to ensure it is discussed by the members prior to the next competitions meeting in June.

Members were reminded that NO decisions are or were made by County Officials regarding the running of this event or any other events and that the representatives MUST discuss with their members and ensure they feedback their CLUBS opinions.

Please discuss the following options proposed at the meeting and bring your Club thoughts back to the June meeting.

Option 1 – Traditional Prelim and Top Three with re-judging.

Option 2 – Prelims with a final evening but without a week's gap in between

Option 3 – Prelims and Results following the last club's performance - No Final.

#### **5. 2018 County Eisteddfod. (Dates, Venue, Judges)**

October 20<sup>th</sup> is the Corresponding date

It was agreed to continue with the corresponding date and for Nia to continue with the list of adjudicators. Ysgol a Preseli to be the venue.

#### **6. To decide on which competitions and number to count for NFU Shield**

(See list)

Dream Machines Mood Board to count. This makes 16 competitions to count.

#### **7. To decide on competitions to count for the Championship Trophy.**

See List

Championship Trophy – Situations Vacant to be added under personal achievement.

#### **8. Order of appearance - Pre Rally/Rally Day competitions.**

Disco Dancing – Clunderwen  
Llawhaden

16<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30pm

Pre rally & Rally: To be discussed at clubs and any feedback to be sent to the office by the 21<sup>st</sup> with clubs preferences.

#### **9. To decide on representatives to Wales/NFYFC competitions**

In previous years it has been agreed that all clubs who win at the rally are then invited to compete at royal welsh and that all clubs undertake the competition knowing that if they win they will represent the county in the next round.

If they have a legitimate reason for not being able to compete at the next round of competition the club **must** notify the county office as soon as possible following the rally so that arrangements can be made for the second placed club to represent the county.

Officers – Last year county officers offered their help to clubs to give a different take on things and improve going forward to Wales. Clubs felt this had worked well and the same would be offered again this year.

**10. Draw for Indoor Sports semi-finals.**

To be played by June Competitions meeting  
Llysyfran / Hermon Vs Fishguard  
Martletwy/ Eglwysrwrw Vs Keyston

**11. Sports Day**

Alice James and Alun Griffiths sports co-ordinators addressed the meeting re the Sports day or days?  
A lot of age groups overlap so there was potentially more than one day of competitions.  
They suggested adding a couple of sports to allow more chances to compete.  
Day of Mixed Hockey and, Men Football, Netball  
Suggestion to clarify the rules for Wales and National to allow time to sort out a workable timetable.  
Possible Dates so far:-  
June 1<sup>st</sup> Rugby – Men’s and Touch  
June 10<sup>th</sup> Sports Day with a potential other date to be added.

**12. Contributions to teams representing the county in the Wales Entertainment final**

Already agreed at last meeting.

**13. Any Other Business.**

March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Non’s Big Trip - Lycra Party – A ball in a hall style party where members have the opportunity to ....

March 16<sup>th</sup> Disco Dancing Competition held at Llawhaden Village Hall

**Feedback from Junior Member and senior member competition**

Potential to allow more than one member from each club to try for the junior and senior member every year.

Junior members – potentially invite members to compete without having to do the PowerPoint just interview and synopsis. Invite the winner only to do the PowerPoint.

A discussion followed and it was agreed for clubs to go back to their members to see what the view was and discuss the competition in more detail at the June meeting

**14. To confirm date of next meeting. Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 8.00p.m.**

Meeting Closed at: 10.05pm

Signed : ..... Date .....