

PEMBROKESHIRE FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS
Minutes County Competitions Sub-Committee Meeting
20th June 2018

Present: 28 as per attendance book

Apologies: Matthew Davies, Matthew Jones, Gaynor Hancock, Amy James, Laura Rogers, Betsan Williams, Richard Summons and Alice James

Chairman's remarks.

Katie welcomed everyone along to her last meeting as competitions chairman. It's been a busy few months since our last meeting with the competitions packed full to bursting. It's also been a very successful couple of months for the county once again.

Congratulations were extended to everyone who represented the county at the Wales Public speaking finals with every member doing their bit to ensure that Pembrokeshire YFC were rewarded with the overall English and Welsh trophies at the end of the day.

Despite the best from the east's best efforts Wales YFC managed to hold the entertainment competition in two parts with Llysyfran coming third in the English section and Hermon coming second in the Welsh Section. We were also represented by Tyleri Warlow and Tania Hancock in the Junior and Senior member competition respectively with Tania securing a top three placing in the senior competition.

Our county field day was a tremendous success with the Jenkins family Lower house providing a very warm welcome, many thanks to them once again. Once again members put their best foot forward and at the end of the day it was Llysyfran YFC who was the overall winners. We also had the announcement that the 2018 Queen would be Tania Hancock of Keyston YFC with Charles George Fishguard as male ambassador. The attendants named were Martha Perkins, South Pems, Ffion Edwards and Christina Morgan, Llysyfran and Georgie Radmore Clunderwen. Congratulations and good luck to you all for the year ahead. Looking forward to the year ahead.

A fortnight later and we popped next door for the Wales Field Day with some fantastic results once again for Pembrokeshire ensuring that our members brought home the trophy as overall winners in the field day.

Once again we finished the year in style and the rally once again showcased the talents of our members in a range of competition. Tania, Charles and their team looked fantastic bringing a bit of glam to proceedings and the overall rally Shield went to Clunderwen YFC. Congratulations to you all.

We have once again finished the year with our sports competitions and thanks to our sports co-ordinators Mr Alun Griffiths and Miss Alice James who facilitated the competitions and good luck to the members who will be competing at the Wales Sports Day on Sunday.

Massive good luck to everyone competing at the Royal Welsh.

1. Minutes of the last meeting held on 7th March 2018 –

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

2. Matters arising.

(a) Entertainment

At the last meeting clubs were asked to go back and discuss the Entertainment competitions with their members and decide which of the following options they would prefer in terms of the running of the entertainment competitions.

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.

VOTE: Decision is: - Option 1 Traditional Prelim and top three with re-judging

(b).Eisteddfod:

It was proposed that the County Eisteddfod will be on the corresponding date of 20th October.

Just to confirm as the dates from the Wales Eisteddfod are now confirmed and The Wales Eisteddfod is 17th November and half term falls later on the 26th October. A discussion followed and

It was proposed to amend the Eisteddfod Date to the 27th October.

3. Correspondence.

- (i) Babs Johnson from Letterston has been in touch to make clubs and members aware that there is a new Skittle alley available for hire at Letterston Hall. If anyone is interested in hiring the venue or if the county would like to hold some sort of county competition.
- (ii) Mrs Dill Williams – letter – Re scrapbooks –
Mrs Dill Williams was the adjudicator of the scrapbook this year and has kindly written asking us to take her points on board regarding the scrapbook competition. Katie read the letter and a discussion followed notably about the size restrictions on scrapbooks.
It was suggested to get rid of size limit especially considering that the competition at wales level will not specify a size limit but to note that half a trestle table would be available per entry for display.
- (iii) Pembrokeshire YFC will be stewarding the Singing competition at the Royal Welsh Show and were required to provide 4 stewards plus the County Organiser.
Volunteers please: Daisy Lewis, Delun Evans, Eirlys Davies, Katie Davies and Owain Lewis

We have also been asked to provide three stewards at the YPV on the Wednesday evening. Along with Nia, County Chairman Non Thorne has already agreed and Helen Hodges has volunteered.

4. To receive the following reports of the 2018 County Rally:

(a)Chief Rally Steward

Assistant Chief Rally Steward & Competition Chief Steward

We have received a combined report from Dylan Williams, Delme Harries and Edna Davies and I would like to invite Edna to give the report on behalf of the three.

2018 Rally Report

Congratulations to everyone involved in the 2018 YFC Rally –we felt it proved to have been a tremendous success. A great deal of work had been put in to ensure the standard of competitions and displays was very high. Lots of positive comments were given of what was a great day for both competitors and spectators. The stage being set in a focal point in the shed and 'hit the eye' as soon as one entered the building again proved to have worked very well. The stage area was busy all day and this was great – a real spectacle for visitors especially those who didn't want to / or couldn't move around the shed – they could enjoy something happening on the stage all the time. Having the retiring Queen and Male Ambassador updating competitions from that area and giving results as they came in was a good idea. Everyone had to walk through the shed to the seating area and therefore saw lots of lovely displays on their way. The displaying of rally signs on the grass area on the showground continues to be a good idea – a good way for everyone to see the effort clubs have put into them. The preparation on the Friday evening went well – clubs must realise the importance of arriving by 6.30pm – some clubs were penalised for late arrival. Clearing up continues to be an issue with members disappearing before the end of all the clearing – we do need to look at this to try and see some way of improving it.

Points to consider:

- Tug of War prelims on the Monday – an improvement this year with clubs taking responsibility of their rubbish and also ensuring only competitors were inside the fence. The presence of the catering van that evening was a big success – diolch yn fawr.
- Tug of War –Rally Day – this year we tried having all Junior teams on Rally Day – do we need to reconsider this as this competition pushed the finishing time on quite a bit? – need discussion about it.
- Stage competitions – Having all singing and dancing competitions on rally day worked out well with opportunities for so many members to perform in front of a good audience which was very popular with supporters and visitors. It also meant we only had one evening of pre-rally competitions.
- 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 – should we insist that they all come back engraved by the set date – first week of May. Some continue to come back in an unacceptable state!!!!
- Floral competitions – a comment was made that in some of the floral art competitions, parents / trainers were passing comments to competitors during the competition.
- Suggestion to put the cookery displays on the opposite side of the building (behind the stage) so that the generation game competition was nearer to where the general public could see what was happening.
- One comment was made regarding the availability for disabled drivers in the afternoon.
- Consideration on having one or two competitions which are agricultural related?
- Can we disguise clubs whilst some competitions are being judged?
- A suggestion was made to open the bar at the latter end of the day – would this solve the clearing up issue as people may come to the rally and stay through to the dance – clubs are getting difficulty in getting buses to the dance.

Huge thanks must go to everyone – Nia and Sian in the office, officials, stewards and especially the members who were involved with this year's rally – it was a huge success and a fantastic shop window for the movement on a very important day in the YFC calendar. Thank you for allowing us to be part of this day.

Katie thanked Edna for the report. Katie then invited Nia to make her report.

(b) County Organiser

It has been another good rally with the layout proving successful. From an organising point of view I would kindly ask that when you propose names for judges that you do have some idea how to get in touch with them as some judges proved very difficult to get hold of this year.

We once again held prelims for some of the competitions and these proved to be excellent nights both socially and financially. I have received some concerns that the night went on quite late however none of the prelim night competitions lent themselves to being standalone competitions that would have constituted having an additional evening. On the flip side many members have also commented that getting them all done in one night gave them more time to concentrate on the rally day competitions. A very big thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the various prelims and stock judging competitions prior to rally day.

Trophy returns – We gave a date by which the trophies should be returned and although most clubs obliged many more brought in the cups and then took them back again to get them engraved.

We also imposed the £10 penalty for unclean cups and although accepted eventually many clubs questioned why they were being fined.

I would urge all club officials to ensure their winning cups from Rally 2018 are taken to the engravers NOW. Don't wait for next year's trophy returns email.

I would like the committee to consider imposing the rule even further next year and that any cups not bringing their cups back in time will be fined!

Rally Day

On the whole the day ran smoothly although the end of the day was stretched out a little longer than anticipated and I would ask the committee to consider returning the junior tug of war to a prelim on the Monday evening prior to rally on the strict understanding with the TOW judges that the junior competition will be completed 1st.

I've also received positive feedback from members competing in the cookery to having the section closed off whilst they were competing.

After last years' "flower gate" at the Rally, I urged all stewards to measure all exhibits before competitors left. This proved very successful and no exhibit was oversize this year.

Despite leaving more room between classes, the judges commented they would have liked even more room, whether that would be possible with the office/bar the other side is debatable. One judge commented that the class nearest the rope must work with their back to the general public & not face them as she caught people trying to "help" members whilst still competing.

An idea to combat this issue would be to move the flowers behind the stage with the cookery and keep the entire area closed until the competing had ended. This would also free up an area for the generation game and other competition that people may like to watch.

There is some concern regarding where members change for the singing and dancing competitions. Bags and clothing are left in places where people could trip over. It was asked that this did not happen and stewards did try and communicate this to members.

However we need to find a suitable changing area for members. We will discuss this in our planning meeting for Rally 2019 and try and incorporate a changing area on site for members.

I have been approached by someone saying that the Rally is more of a craft day and there is hardly anything agriculture about it anymore. This point of view has been raised more than once this year. I would urge members to speak up on this and feedback at competitions meetings at Wales to incorporate more rural / agricultural themed competitions into the RWAS programme which is essentially what we are following. I would also suggest that if members were open to having extra competitions then the rural affairs might be invited to add a competition for rally day. Another idea would be to move the Tractor Handling to Rally Day instead of the Field Day.

I have had nothing but praise for the catering provided by Teleri Jenkins Davies and her family however it's been a mixed bag regarding the seating area. Some have praised the way they still feel part of what's going on and can keep up with results or listen in on competitions whilst others want some peace and quiet to eat. The boards this year were only half way up, and have previously been closed off. However when it was closed in people felt too confined. A question has been asked if a return to using the Pavilion may be possible.

Clearing Up

The transition from day to night continues to be stunted. This in my opinion I'm sorry to say is down to winning clubs deciding to leave when they feel they've done enough as opposed to ensuring the Chief rally steward is happy and has completed all aspects of the clean-up. I would like the committee to discuss this and come up with sort of agreement or rule to be added to the rally general rules on this matter as it always seems to be the same few behind at the end clearing up ensuring that everything is ready to go once again.

Rally Dance

The Rally Dance once again ran smoothly and a huge thank you to everyone who came to steward. All clubs provided stewards and all the stewards worked hard in ensuring everyone had a great time and more importantly pitched in with the clean-up. A genius idea was introduced by the president's wife Awen Evans of going round collecting some of the glasses during the evening which lessened the amount of plastics to be collected at the end.

We still have issues arising from underage members gaining access to alcohol and despite rock security staff doing their utmost to confiscate alcohol and the bar staff asking for confirmation of ID we still had some people underage accessing alcohol. I would ask senior members and club officials to remind all those over 18 that they really shouldn't buy alcohol for those underage. It may be fun it may be cool to you but we as a county are extremely lucky that Tom is willing to take on the License for the event. A role that carries serious consequences for him as an individual should anything go wrong. I would also remind you that it is a huge privilege for under 18 members to be allowed at the dance at all and if things continue this will no longer be an option and the dance will have to become a senior's only event.

Finally, A very, very big thank you to Dylan Williams the chief stewards, Delme, Edna and Peter who all worked so very, very hard on the day and in preparation for the event. And to Tom Bevan and the team of evening stewards.

A very big thank you to the chief, assistant and field stewards and to all competition stewards and judges and also to Sian at the County office for all her help and support.

Katie noted that a lot of points had been made in the reports and asked members to add their opinions and thoughts; a discussion followed and members proposed the following changes in addition to those raised in the reports.

A discussion followed and members raised the following points.

- Move the Junior Tug of War back to being a pre rally – many clubs felt they lost key people with them being tied up with tug of war.
- Tug of war weigh in at 9.30am
- Craft area to be closed off from the food area to give members competing fair play
- Club Exhibit – Judges to speak to the competing members as comments are made that things were not made by members when they had been.
- Clarification on how much preparation can be done the night before.
- Sign mark scheme needs more clarification for clubs to now where marks are allocated
- Costings limit on NFYFC Floral art section
- Pre rally night was better just one night but a more appropriate hall with more rooms would be more effective.
- Head mics for singing performances – should have stopped and restarted. Also suggested that everyone use hand held mics at county to avoid problems.

Katie thanked everyone for their contributions and thanked the team for all their hard work putting the rally day and dance together.

5. 2019 County Rally:

- (a) Date - Corresponding date 25th May 2019
- (b) Venue - PAS Showground
- (c) Disco & Band Same as 2018 – Rob Thomas Disco and Lateral

6. 2018 Royal Welsh Show.

- (a) Most clubs have confirmed that they will be happy to attend the RWAS Show to represent Pembrokeshire. We do have one draw for the sheep stock judging to carry out. Sioned Thomas and Elin Gwynne Davies were joint winners of the U18 sheep stock judging and therefore we need a draw to decide who will represent the county at the RWAS.
President Mr Alwyn Evans drew Elin Gwynne Davies Hermon to represent the county.

Katie also reminded those going forward that county officials are happy to come along and help and advise should anyone need it for different competitions.

This proved successful last year.

7. 2018/2019 County Competitions Programme including Dates, Rules and Judges

Closing Date for Accounts and minute Books: 5th September

Judges:

Accounts: LHP

Minute Books: Anne Jones Ceredigion County Organiser

Reserves: Nia Lloyd

A discussion was then raised regarding potentially merging the winter fair and Field day especially as this year Pembrokeshire would play host to Wales Field Day in addition to our own. Many points of view were raised however members opted to continue with the way it has been.

Mini Winter Fair - 10th November Whitland

Lamb Carcass – Andrew Rees, Haydn Davies

Beef Stock judging Nicky Williams, Julian Williams
Lamb Stock judging Geraint Evans, Llantood, Paul Monahan
Lamb Trimming Gareth Jones
Christmas tree Decorating: County President
Promotional Sign Hermon YFC – winning club Rally sign – confirm by exec.
Poultry trussing / jointing – Direct Entry

English Public Speaking Day

DATE & VENUE? 9th December

Junior Reading:

Judge: Lydia Lawrence (Edna)

Reserve: Sam Vaughan (Edna)

Junior Speaking:

Judge: Nielson Cole

Reserve: Pool Names

Intermediate Brainstrust:

Judge: Jill Lawrence

Reserve: Pool Names from other counties

Senior After Dinner:

Judge: Delyth Parry

Reserves: Roger Lewis

Recorder: Alwyn Evans

Chief Stewards: Edna Davies

County Trainer/Selectors (English section)

Junior reading – Delun Evans/Alwyn Evans

Junior – Katie Davies

Intermediate brains trust - Will Pritchard/Bring someone along

Senior After dinner - Katie, Peter and Rhiannon

Entertainment Feast - Wales Final 9th /10th March

Entertainment English DATE AND VENUE? 11/12/13/14/15 Prelims and Final 22nd

Judge: Peter Doran - Torch

Reserves: Simon Haslam/David Hedley Williams

Entertainment Welsh DATE & VENUE? 8th or 15th

Judge: Dyfrig and Nia Clwyd

Reserves: Dai Baker

Junior member of the year DATE & VENUE? 18/2

Judges: Non, Daf Jones, Alwyn

Reserves:

Senior member of the year 18/2

Judge: Chair Ceredigion, Chair Carmarthenshire, Chair NFU, Chair FUW

Reserves:

Situations Vacant: Date and Venue? 18/2

Judge: Neil Davies /Rob Nicholas

Reserves:

Show Choir – Date & Venue? Interest by Exec

Judge:

Reserves:

County Field Day – DATE and Venue 6th April

See separate sheet.

Talk to clubs for suggestions for Sept/Oct

WALES FIELD DAY – Proposed to have a SUB COMMITTEE to arrange Wales Field Day. Proposals to have a working party to report back to competitions and exec to include:-

County Chair, Rural Affairs chairman, Vice Chairman, Stock co-coordinators and Andrew Davies our machinery co-ordinator.

It was agreed that this would be a good way to move things forward.

Knockout Quiz

Semi-final to be completed by

Final Leave format as it is

Date: Final by the last exec in June. Start in Sept, First round by first exec if not done disqualified.
Pool of names from each area as potential quiz masters.

A point was raised that the rules were a little sexist and outdated. It was agreed that the rules be changed and that the team was to be made up of 6 members within the relevant age groups.

WELSH PUBLIC SPEAKING

Check List

Junior reading & Intermediate Brains trust:

Judge: Pools

Reserves:

Junior speaking & Senior after Dinner

Judge: Pools

Reserves:

Recorder: Alwyn Evans

Chief Steward: Eirlys Davies

County Trainer/Selectors

Junior Reading – Delun Evans

Junior – Arwel Evans

Intermediate Brainstrust – Sue Phillips

Senior Debating- Wendy Phillips

8. E. R. Phillips Award.

Display Board – maximum size A1 to be produced for the County Show, showing the club's charity and community work over the previous 12 months.

Any medium. Photographs may be used.

Alwyn asked that all clubs include a figure for the amount they have raised over the year.

Nia suggested a county Totaliser to be announced at the show.

Judges: Mrs Ann Phillips-Davies and County President Mr Alwyn Evans

9. Recorder for Championship Trophy – Mrs Mair Evans

10. Any Other Business.

Indoor Sports Final

Eglwysrwrw / Keyston vs Lllysyfran

To be held at Agriculture House.

Clubs to inform county Chairman and County Vice Chairman of Proposed date.

Pub of the Month Friday 13th July at The Cross Inn, Clarboston Road

RABI Afternoon Tea

Rugby 7s Lawrence – proposal to play touch as a social night and hold trials for an actual county team.

First Aider to be present at county sports

Senior and Junior member 1 per club had previously been discussed and clubs were asked to come back with their thoughts. It was proposed to stay with one entry per club.

Queen and Attendants questions – suggestion was made to standardise questions for all competitors.

Retiring Queen – to present the sash and not invite adjudicators along.

12th Cardigan Show Sheep and Pigs stock judging - Financial rewards!!

Good luck to all the members competing at the NFYFC Competitions day. Pembrokeshire will be representing Wales in the Public Speaking, Workshop skills and Fencing.

25th August Keyston YFC doing a dance after vintage working day.

12. Date of next meeting TBC after exec.