

Competitions Sub Committee Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting

12th June 2019

Chairman's remarks

The chairman, Mr Iwan George welcomed everyone to his last meeting as competitions Chairman. It has been as usual an incredibly busy time for the members with numerous number of competitions having taken place. Firstly we had the county field day which was held by the kind permission Mr & Mrs Robert Richards of Mount Farm, Solva it was an excellent venue and a successful day was had with Clynderwen winning overall.

As a county, we then held the Wales Field day in the Pembrokeshire county show ground it was great to see so many members and friends of the movement help Wales YFC run another fantastic day of competitions which saw Pembrokeshire come 3rd overall with Llion Harris Eglwysrwr winning the sheepdog trials, Rhys James Llysyfran winning the stockman of the year and with the rest of the Pembrokeshire team went on to win the Senior Stockman team title, Clunderwen winning the senior fencing and Llysyfran winning the farm safety skills.

Before the rally competitions took centre stage we had an excellent night in the knockout quiz final which saw quiz master Stephen Phillips give Llysyfran and Keyston a challenging set of questions but this year it was Llysyfran which were crowned champions of the Knockout quiz!

May has been all about Pre Rally and rally day competitions, what has been a hectic month of competing in the end it was Keyston Winning the overall shield for the first time in their 76 year history, congratulations Keyston. The Rally day also saw Angharad Edwards Llysyfran Crowned as Rally Queen 2019 and Jonathan Morgan also Llysyfran named Male ambassador for 2019 first time both have come from the same club. Joining them as attendants this year was Emily Jones Llawhaden, Lucy Kiff Tiers Cross, Liz King Clunderwen and Esther Davies Eglwysrwr, Congratulations to you all and I hope you had a enjoyable day and are all looking forward to the year ahead in your new roles. I'd also like to congratulate every single member and every club from across the county for all their hard work during the last month. I apologize for not being able to attend the rally for the whole day but of what I have heard and the pictures I have seen it was a great success and that is down to you as members.

I would also like to thank on behalf of the county, the tremendous support we have from all our stewards, stockjudging coordinators, President, vice president's and office staff for their support we are very fortunate to have an excellent team of people always willing to help particularly over the last few months but also throughout the year Thank you, Diolch!

Apologies for absence

Gaynor Hancock

Non Thorne

Please note in the attendance book

1. Minutes of the last meeting held on 6th March 2019

These were read and signed as a true record

2. Matters arising

There was none

3. Correspondence

The items of correspondence received were relevant to the Rally, and would be covered under the Rally Review.

4. To review to 2019 County Field Day

The 2019 Field Day was discussed and reviewed. Points to note were

- Members were very pleased with the running of the day
- Venue, location and hosts were excellent. Provided the perfect setup for the day. Thanks were extended to Mr & Mrs Robert Richards, Mount Farm.
- The tractor provided for the tractor handling was very complicated, and required explaining to members on how to operate, resulting in the competition running very late.
- Tractor kindly provided by Phillips Bros. Agreed to look at getting a simpler machine to use and to take into consideration next year.
- The Queen and attendants reported that it was great being outside in the middle what was going on, instead of being in the house away from everything. It was felt that this made the day run slicker too.

5. To receive the following reports of the 2019 County Rally:

(a) Chief Rally Stewards

A very successful day with very positive comments from members and public.

A couple of things to note and consider for the future:

Admission and lunch tickets. We need to review the list of those who are invited and get lunch and that those who have lunch get their tickets with admission, but not duplicated due to roles.

Stage – looked fantastic and we need to consider getting the trestles annually.

Do we have screens on the stage so they can see the activities that take place on the floor area, should we insist that certain competitions must take place on the stage when suitable.

Thanks to the comperes for their work on the day and we must consider to continue using our outgoing Queen, Male Ambassador and current Junior and Senior Members of the Year.

Flowers and Cookery need to be reviewed. Our suggestion would be that these are located in a separate building (Pavilion if possible) and that this is closed to the public until 12.00 noon and all

results are checked, confirmed and displayed. Competitors and Stewards only allowed in this building until noon. We must also have a judge for each section of Flowers.

The area where the cookery was held this year to be used for storage and changing areas. The Club Exhibits can be placed along the length of the building.

We also should end up with more room in the main building and less bottlenecks and any side stalls outside will have passing traffic.

Signs – do we consider changing the rules that the sign is made at the field day and can be then put in place by a certain date – this is what they do in another County. We also need to allow clubs to see the marking schemes and that the marks are still counted for Rally.

Judges comments should also be provided. We will of course need to review the rules and the judging if we go down this route. Or is it time for a change and we use Bale Art as a method of promoting the Rally and this is judged on location.

Pre-Rally competitions should all be held before the Tug o War so clubs have time to prepare for the Rally Day competitions.

Rally Day Competitions - could we consider having a few on the day competitions and agricultural themed competitions even if we have to consider holding some of the eliminator competitions at other events e.g. pre rally, field day.

Huge thank you to all the Clubs who helped at the end of the day, a very smooth transition from Rally to the Dance.

Thank you to all the Judges and Stewards and to Owain and Sian for all your work in the lead up and on Rally Day.

Congratulations to all members.

Iwan thanked Dylan, Delme and Edna for all of their hard work and support.

(b) County Organiser – Owain

A very different rally for me this year, seeing it from a different perspective.

It has been another good rally with the layout proving successful, with a few ideas to change and improve on this. There seemed to be a good crowd present with many supporters enjoying the day.

From an organisational point of view I would kindly ask that clubs do discuss judges at their meetings and have a list of names to propose at the competitions meeting. Also, when you propose names for judges that you have their contact details. The date isn't ideal to get judges, with it being a bank holiday weekend followed by half term, so a few extra names would be great.

Pre Rally

We once again held some of the competitions pre rally and these proved to be successful night, with the evening at Llawhaden Hall providing great entertainment!

This year, we had a large number of pre-rally competitions within a short space of time, and we will look to spread these out more next year, and have no competitions during the week of Rally.

A very big thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the various pre rally competitions, thanks to all competition hosts, judges and stewards and stock judging co-ordinators.

Trophy returns

The vast majority of cups were returned by the 1st of May deadline, with all others in Munts for engraving. Please can clubs and members to get their trophies engraved now, so that they are done ready and can be handed in by the deadline. Although they take up a lot of room in the office, it's good to know they are all accounted for.

Rally Day

The setup on the Friday evening went smoothly with clubs reporting on time for setup and getting on with their set duties. Big thank you to the Angharad, Jonathan and the Attendants for dressing the stage which looked great!

I was very pleased with how Rally day went. We kept to the timetable, and the whole day ran smoothly, helped by the Queen, Male Ambassador and attendants arriving early! The shortened Crowning ceremony worked well, and I think was sufficient.

As the Chief Stewards also reported, there are suggestions to tweak the layout. Some feedback from competitors, judges and stewards that the shed is very noisy with the singing competition in the morning. The suggestion of moving the floral and cookery to the Pavilion would help with this, allowing the area behind the stage for Singers and Dancers to prepare and get changed etc. This would also take away the baggage left by the toilets, however there would probably be a cost for hiring the Pavilion. The Floral Judges offered to judge 2 classes each as they had judged in previous years and thought this would be feasible, however, the standard was so high it took longer for them to come to a decision. It would work better if we go back to a judge per class or split the start times.

I would suggest a large screen be placed on the stage, with a camera at the front, with all floor competitions shown on here. As we saw last year, a screen and projector doesn't work due to the light, and anyone standing further back can't see what is happening on the floor.

The fantastic catering was once again provided by Cegin Cwm Gwaun. They were very pleased with the day and have told me if they are awarded the tender again next year, they will bring their bigger trailer for the fast food outside. The Ice cream was again a big hit. The seating area worked well this year and could be extended if we move the floral and cookery to the Pavilion.

I also think the lunch tickets need to be reviewed ahead of next year, with no duplications due to roles.

Clearing Up

The very smooth transition from day to night and worked well this year, with people getting on with the tasks set by the chief steward. Everything was ready and people had left by 7pm to prepare for the dance.

Rally Dance

The Rally Dance once again ran smoothly and a huge thank you to everyone who came to steward and help. The end of the evening is still a bit of an issue, with stewards not staying until the end for clearing away. Stewards are asked to stay until 2.30am, or until instructed otherwise. This year, we agreed to arrange cleaners to clean the toilets. Apple Blossom were booked for this and was a big help with one less job at the end of a long day! The bar takings from the afternoon more than covered this cost. Big thanks to Tom for co-ordinating the dance, and the whole team of helpers.

The day proved very successful financially too, with a large crowd through the gate and bar takings up. The card machine was put through its paces during the dance too!

Finally, congratulations to all members and a big congratulations to Keyston YFC! Good luck to members that will be representing Pembrokeshire at the Royal Welsh Show in July. Club Secretaries please collect information from me tonight. There are representative from 9 out of 12 clubs heading to the Royal Welsh for the various competitions, which is great to see!

A big thank you also to all competition stewards, some with judges taking their time to come to a decision, and also to the gate stewards A very big thank you to Dylan the chief steward, and to Delme, Edna and Peter who all worked so very hard preparing for the event and on the day. And not forgetting Sian at the office for all her help and support!

(c) Events Chairman

The Events Chairman, Mr Tom Bevan, was unable to attend the meeting, but sent the following report.

Another great Rally Day following by a successful Rally Dance. Thank you to the Stewards, and it was great to see a few new faces helping out this time. A few more stewards were needed at times, particularly when the bar got busy.

We were unable to get a band this year, as it seemed to be a busy weekend for Weddings! Did members miss the band, and do they want to continue without a band next year? Was a saving of approximately £400.00.

Opening the bar in the afternoon worked well. It was a new thing for this year, and we weren't sure how it would work. Now that we have a better idea, we would require stewards designated to this role for the period the bar is open during the day. We could open the bar earlier during the

day, maybe during the Tug o' War competition. The results came out quick this year, with not much hanging about between the end of the competing and the Awards Ceremony.

The changeover from the day to the evening was done very swiftly. The bar was already set up, so this was a big task that we didn't need to worry about. All clubs got on with their designated tasks and things were packed away quickly.

The St. Johns First Aid team, Security team and Catering team had no problems or issues to report.

Thank you to everyone involved and congratulation on another successful event.

Iwan then opened the floor to the members for their feedback and comments, and the following points were made and discussed:

- The noise levels while judging the flowers and cookery made it difficult for judging
- Concerns were raised from a number of clubs in regard to a judge being disrespectful towards competing members. This was discussed and agreed not to invite this judge back in the future.
- Toilets were not left in an acceptable state after the day
- Stewards not staying until the end of the night. It was discussed and agreed that only Tom as events chairman would instruct stewards when they can leave.
- An issue was raised regarding the Tug o' War competition, with the Ladies and Juniors split into 2 groups, one with 3 teams and the other with 4, and that this wasn't fair. It was stated that the competition is run by the Tug o' War Association and do all of the draws. This is fair for everyone and is down to the luck of the draw. A concern was raised regarding a club with only 5 in their junior team and felt that this was dangerous. This would be taken into consideration in the future. It was also agreed to ask judges to inform teams not to let go of the rope as soon as the whistle is blown as this is dangerous for the other team involved.
- The Cattle Ring display competition was discussed, and if it could be held in the lower end of the cattle ring next to the Tug o' War competition, so that everyone is in one place for the two competitions.

5. 2020 County Rally

- (a) Date – Saturday 23rd May 2020
- (b) Venue – County Showground
- (d) Rally Dance – Same arrangements as 2019
- (e) Disco & Band – Rob Thomas Disco and agreed not to have a band for 2020

6. 2019 Royal Welsh Show

- (a) Representations to Royal Welsh Show

Club secretaries to collect letters, rules and timetables, and inform office by Monday if their members are available please. We have 9 out of 12 clubs with members going forward to represent the county at the Royal Welsh

(b) Representations to Royal Yorkshire Show
Draw between Isaac Davies Clynderwen and Robbie Reed-Griffiths Llawhaden for 16 & Under Dairy Stockjudging.

The President drew Isaac Davies to represent the County.

6. 2019-2020 County Competitions Programme including Dates, Rules and Judges

A draft of the Calendar was distributed, and comments were welcomed, and the following changes were discussed:

- Agreed to move the Welsh Public Speaking Day to Sunday 19th January

County Eisteddfod

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the County Eisteddfod to make the day run more smoothly and finish earlier. It was proposed and seconded to limit entries to 2 per club. A vote was held, and this was not carried. It was agreed to start the day at 10am, and that there be no break in the afternoon, and for Judges and stewards to take a break during the crowning ceremony, with other stewards to break on a rota as necessary.

Indoor Sports and Knockout Quiz

These competitions were discussed. It was mentioned to run one during the winter and the other during the summer. Clubs to discuss and bring back comments.

7. E. R. Phillips Award

Display Board as follows:

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.

It was agreed that Ann Phillips Davies and County President to judge the competition, with the deadline for entries week before on Monday 5th August.

8. Recorder for Championship Trophy

It was agreed to ask Mrs Mair Evans to continue as Recorder.

9. Mini Winter Fair

A discussion was held with regards to the possibility of amalgamating the Mini Winter Fair and the Field Day. Members to take back to clubs to discuss and bring feedback to the next meeting.

10. Any Other Business

a) Wales Public Speaking Day

A concern was raised following on from the Wales Public Speaking Day. It was reported that the judge had not received competition rules ahead of the day and was not familiar with the competition and did not understand the rules. It was noted that the judge did not choose the topics for Brainstrust competition, and it was felt that it is important that they do so. Wales YFC Competitions representatives to report back at next Wales meeting and suggested that we send a list of proposed judges to Wales.

b) Llawhaden YFC are holding several events, namely a Rural Crime Talk on Tuesday 2nd June, and invited clubs to join. Also, they advertised their Junior Summer Dance on 19th July and Gin Tasting Evening on 9th August.

c) First Aid at Sports

It was discussed that First Aid is required at Sports and the Rugby competition. Sara is willing to offer her services, and the Sports coordinators had also arranged another first aider. It was agreed to give Sara a contribution for her services.

d) Martletwy YFC Show

Martletwy YFC Show Committee have offered their main ring to Pembrokeshire YFC between 4.30 and 6.00pm at their Show, for an 'It's a Knockout' style competition. Members to take back to clubs and discuss if they could send teams for this as it is on a weekday.

e) Llysyfran YFC advertised their upcoming events. Sheep Racing night on the 5th July and a Family Fun Day on the 6th July

f) Clynderwen YFC advertised their upcoming Car Treasure Hunt, on Tuesday 25th June.

g) Dewi Evans, Eglwysrwrw YFC has kindly offered to donate a trophy to the 18 & Under Best Individual Performance in the Welsh Entertainment.

11. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 9th October 2019.

The meeting was closed at 9.59pm.