

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS

Competitions Programme 2025-26

NFYFC LAMB Live & Carcase Judging

21 & Under and 28 & Under

RULES



Competition Aim

To provide members with the opportunity to put their training to the test by judging high quality livestock and carcasses and presenting their findings to industry experts. Members are provided with constructive feedback and advice from the industry experts for their future development.

Learning outcomes

Judging skills including: observation, understanding of the make-up of the animal and market demands. Communication skills, presentation skills and time keeping.

REMINDER: Please read these rules in conjunction with **NFYFC General Rules** and familiarise all competitors with the **Fine System in place for withdrawal from competitions.**

Further information can be found at <https://nfyfc.org.uk/competition-organisers-resources>

1. DATE & VENUE

1.1. After the County Final, the National Final will be held at the English Winter Fair, Staffordshire Showground on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th November 2025. Exact timetable to be confirmed.

2. REPRESENTATION

2.1. Counties may enter **two** teams of **two** competitors (Intermediate & Senior) per 600 members or part thereof in the National Final.

3. ELIGIBILITY

3.1. A team shall consist of two (2) members. One competitor must be 21 years of age or under and the second competitor must be 28 years of age or under on 1st September 2025 and full members of a Club affiliated to NFYFC.

4. PROCEDURE

4.1. Competitors will judge two groups of live Lambs in Part I and two groups of carcasses in Part II as follows:

4.2. Part I – Live

4.2.1. Place a group of four Lambs in order of merit and estimate their classification according to the Meat and Livestock Commission Services Ltd (MLCSL) Carcase Classification Scheme

4.2.2. Place a group of four Lambs in order of merit and give reasons for those placings

4.3. Part II – Carcase

4.3.1. Place a group of four Lambs carcasses in order of merit and estimate their classification according to the Meat and Livestock Commission Services Ltd (MLCSL) Carcase Classification Scheme

4.3.2. Place a group of four Lambs carcasses in order of merit and give reasons for those placings

4.4. The live animals and carcasses will be designated A, B, X, Y.

4.5. Competitors may handle the live Lambs but only in such a way that they do not cause bruising. Excessive handling after a caution from the stewards will result in disqualification.

4.6. Handling of the carcasses is **NOT ALLOWED**.

4.7. Judging in both rings will operate simultaneously.

4.8. In the carcase judging section, competitors may arrive at their placings by using the following scale of marks as an aid:

Conformation	Legs, short-boned and well filled	30
	Loin width & fullness inc. eye muscle size	30
	Colour of lean, not too dark and texture fine-grained	5
Fat	Depth of fat over legs and loin – correct proportions	20

Depth of fat on breasts in correct proportion	10
Ribs, light with high lean to fat ratio	5
	<u>100</u>

5. TIMING

1.1. Live Assessment

- 1.2. Ten minutes judging (place & reasons) – handling allowed (in groups)
- 1.3. Ten minutes judging (place only & classification) – handling allowed (in groups)
- 1.4. At least Five minutes preparing reasons before being called to the judge

1.5. Carcase Judging & Classification

- 1.6. Ten minutes judging (place & reasons) – handling allowed (in groups)
- 1.7. Five minutes judging (place only & classification) – handling allowed (in groups)
- 1.8. At least Five minutes preparing reasons before being called to the judge

1.9. Reasons

- 1.10. Up to two minutes will be allowed for each competitor to give his or her reasons to the Judge in both the live and carcass sections. Two marks will be deducted for each fifteen seconds (or part thereof) that a competitor goes over the allotted two minutes. The marks will be deducted from the competitor's total.

6. SCALE OF MARKS

6.1. Live Animals:

Placings:	(on 2 rings = 2 x 50)		100
	Correct MLCSL Classification		50
Reasons:	(on 1 ring)	<i>Accuracy of observations</i>	25
		<i>Comparison</i>	15
		<i>Style (including presentation of competitor)</i>	10
	LIVE TOTAL:	Per Competitor	<u>200</u>

6.2. Carcasses:

Placing:	(on 2 rings = 2 x 50)		100
	Correct MLCSL Classification		50
Reasons:	(on 1 ring)	<i>Accuracy of observations</i>	25
		<i>Comparison</i>	15
		<i>Style (including presentation of competitor)</i>	10
	CARCASS TOTAL:	Per Competitor	<u>200</u>
	TOTAL:	Per Competitor	400
	TOTAL:	Per Team	800

7. AWARDS

- 7.1. Smithfield and English Winter Fair Trophy, prize money Kerbl/Rutland.
- 7.2. English Winter Fair prize card to 2 and 3 place.
- 7.3. NFYFC Certificates of Achievement will be awarded to all competitors.

8. NOTES

- 8.1. During the competition, competitors may not have with them any papers or literature other than the placing cards provided.
- 8.2. Mobile phones are not to be used once the competition has started – if found to be using them this will be an automatic disqualification.
- 8.3. When stating reasons, competitors may use only the NOTES SECTION on the official cards provided. These notes are intended for reference only and the competitors who read their notes verbatim to the Judges will be penalised.
- 8.4. Competitors in the NFYFC competitions are not eligible to take part in the Staffordshire and Birmingham Agricultural Society competition on the Sunday.
- 8.5. During the period of the competition, competitors must not communicate directly or indirectly with any person other than Judges and Stewards under penalty of disqualification.
- 8.6. **IMPORTANT:** Competitors are reminded to read carefully the General Rules relating to National Competitions if they are taking part in this Competition. These are available from the NFYFC website
- 8.7. Members will be disqualified if they are not at the Presentation of Awards without prior permission being granted.
- 8.8. Competitors must provide themselves with white coats, which must be worn during the period of the competition and at the Presentation of Awards, Club, County and Sponsor logs are permitted on either the front or back of the coats.