



BALMORAL
SHOW 2024
15TH - 18TH MAY



Ulster Bank



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SHEARING
SCHEDULE**

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SHEEP SHEARING, WOOL HANDLING & BLADE SHEARING PRIZE SCHEDULE



The Society is indebted to the following sponsors who's financial or in-kind assistance has made the competitions possible.



**Ulster Wool
Growers**



The Society would like to thank all those who provide sheep for the competitions, and competitors for their careful handling of the sheep.

Thank you to Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd who supply the shearing machines and technical support for all the shearing competitions.

Thank you to A McIlrath & Son (Husqvarna) for their sponsorship of the Shearing Pavilion.

NISSA have contributed towards the building of the new sheep shearing stands in memory of the late Maurice Megahey

SHEEP SHEARING OFFICIALS

Chief Steward: Gerard Kelly

Deputy Chief Stewards: John Murphy, Brendan Kelly

Sponsor Liaison: Robert Harkness

STEWARDS

Alec Butler

Andrew Rea

Crosby Cleland

Damien Nelson

David O'Neill

Finn Butler

Graeme Davidson

Ian Montgomery

Jack Robinson

Matthew Cowan

Nicholas Dennison

Eoghan McPartland

Robert Harkness

Russell Smith

Ryan Adams

Sam McConnell

Seamus Kelly

William Jones

Commentators: Huw Condron, George Graham, Trevor Clarke & Nigel Loughlan

Scorekeepers: Ellen Murphy & Jayne Harkness-Bones

Assistant Board Referee: Wallace Boyd

Timekeeper: Wallace Boyd, Joanna Boyd & James Jones

Screen Technician: Damian Nelson

JUDGING PANEL

Adrian Caldwell, Co. Tyrone

Alan Crockett, Co. Tyrone

Alan Longstaff, Co. Antrim

Andrew Rankin, Dunbartenshire

Anita Jones, Powys

Brendan Kelly, Co. Antrim

Brian Megahey, Co. Antrim

Bryan Wilson, Co. Antrim

Colin Crowe, Westmeath

David Jones, Co. Antrim

David O'Neill, Co. Tyrone.

Fionan Butler, Co. Antrim

French Judge TBC

Gerard Kelly, Co. Antrim

Graeme Davidson, Co. Antrim

Ian Montgomery, Co. Antrim

Jack Robinson, Co. Londonderry

John Ivor Davis, Powys

John Frogget, Staffordshire

John Murphy, Co. Antrim

Leanne Bertram, Scotland

Richard Schofield, North Yorkshire

Seamus Kelly, Co Antrim.

Tom Dunne, Wicklow

Tom Perry, Co Tyrone

William Jones, Co Antrim

ENTRIES

ENTRIES OPEN – 3 APRIL. ENTRIES CLOSE - FRIDAY 26TH April 2024

Enter online at www.balmoralshow.co.uk

- Entries received after the close date will be considered as a late entry and therefore will not receive a show pack or entry wristband and will have to pay full admission price at the gate.
- Entries may be accepted on the day of shearing, subject to the availability of sheep.
- Shearing Up will be allowed subject to availability of sheep.

Competition	Day	Entry Fee (inc VAT)	Competitors must report by
Junior Heats, Semi Final and Final	Wednesday	£17	10.00am
Intermediate Heats, Semi Final and Final	Thursday	£20	8.30am
National Shearing Championship Heats, Semi Final and Final	Thursday	£25	8.00am
National Wool Handling Heats & Final	Thursday	£15	8.00am
Senior Heats, Semi Final and Final	Friday	£25	8.00am
Ladies Shearing	Friday	£15	10.00am
Open Blade Shearing Championship	Friday	£20	8.00am
Novice Wool Handling Heats	Friday	£15	1.00pm
Open Wool Handling Heats	Friday	£20	1.00pm
Open Heats, Semi Final and Final	Saturday	£30	8.30am

TRAVELLING TO THE SHOW

Please note that traffic around Balmoral Park is very busy therefore you should leave extra time to get to the Showgrounds. Please refer to the website for directions or information enclosed in your exhibitor pack where applicable.

CONTACT DETAILS

Carolyn Greene T: 07809 907217 E: carolyn@ruas.org.uk

TIMETABLE

Day	Start time	Competition
Wednesday	9.30am	YFCU / Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd Novice & Advanced Sheep Shearing Championship followed by YFCU Wool Handling competition
	1pm	Junior Heats, Semi Finals & Final
Thursday	9.30am	Intermediate Heats
		Royal Ulster National Shearing Championship – Heats
		Royal Ulster National Wool Handling – Heats
		Royal Ulster National Blade Shearing - Heats
	1.30pm	Royal Ulster National Wool Handling – Final
		Intermediate Semi Finals
		Royal Ulster National Shearing Championship – Semi Final
		Intermediate Finals
		Royal Ulster National Blade Shearing - Final
	3.30pm	Royal Ulster National Shearing Championship – Final
Friday	9.30am	Senior Heats
		Open Blade Shearing Championship – Heats
	11.30am	Senior Semi Final
		Ladies Shearing Competition
	1.30pm	Open Blade – Final
		Senior Final
2.30pm	Novice & Open Wool Handling Heats	
Saturday	9.00am	Open Heats
	10.00am	Novice & Open Wool Handling Semi Final
	11.00am	Open Semi Finals
	11.30am	Novice Wool Handling Final
	1.00pm	Open Wool Handling Final
		Wool Handling Development Test – 3 way – France / Wales / NI (1 open, 1 novice)
	1.45pm	Six Nations - Wool Handling Competition
2.30pm	Open Finals	

COMPETITIONS DETAILS

LISTER SHEARING / YFCU NOVICE & ADVANCED SHEEP SHEARING CHAMPIONSHIP



Sponsored by Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd

Lister Silver Handpiece Perpetual Challenge Trophy & commemorative engraved medallion presented to the winner of the competition and supplied by Lister Shearing. Shearing vests provided by Lister Shearing.

The winner of the novice section will receive the James Gilpin Perpetual Cup

The Robert Camac award (bronze medal) will be presented by the Worshipful Company of Woolmen.

ROYAL ULSTER NATIONAL SHEEP SHEARING CHAMPIONSHIP



Sponsored by Randox Health

Entrants must be born in Northern Ireland or resident three years in Northern Ireland, not having represented any other country within three years of the day of the competition.

Only plain shearing vests may be worn where show sponsors vests are not provided.

Heats - Each competitor will be required to shear 5 sheep or any number of sheep predetermined by Chief Steward.

Final - Each competitor will be required to shear 10 sheep or any number of sheep predetermined by Chief Steward.

The 'Ringer' Perpetual Challenge Trophy, presented by the late Maurice Megahey, will be presented to the winner of the National Shearing Championship.

Prize Money: 1st gold medal and £100, 2nd silver medal and £75, 3rd bronze medal and £50, 4th £35, 5th £25, 6th £25

Moira Cross Country & Schooling Gallops will present £100 quality prize for the best pen of shorn sheep in the final.

Jim Allen Perpetual Silver Salver, for best pen of shorn sheep, in the heats, semi finals or finals - in memory of Jim Allen presented by Margaret Allen.

INTERNATIONAL SHEEP SHEARING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Junior

sponsored by 

Intermediate

sponsored by 

Senior

sponsored by 

Open

sponsored by 

Note: Competitors will be required to shear a number of sheep as predetermined by the chief steward. Competitors will only be able to shear in their classified category as set out in the spring edition of Newsclip. Competitors may only enter in **one** of the sections below.

Only plain shearing vests may be worn where show sponsors vests are not provided.

Prize Money

Junior	1st Edwin Adams Trophy & £85, 2nd £60, 3rd £35, 4th £25, 5th £20, 6th £20
Intermediate	1st Malcolm Fraser Trophy & £100, 2nd £85, 3rd £60, 4th £35, 5th £25, 6th £25
Senior	1st Wallace Boyd Trophy & £150, 2nd £100, 3rd £70, 4th £50, 5th £40, 6th £30
Open	1st Gartree Trophy Presented by Robert Harkness & £600, 2nd £350, 3rd £300, 4th £250, 5th £200, 6th £175

Perpetual Rosebowl will be Presented by Robert Harkness and Jayne Harkness-Bones for the top Northern Ireland Shearer in the Open, in memory of Rosemary Harkness.

Moir Cross Country & Schooling Gallops will present £50 quality prize for the best pen of shorn sheep in the Junior and £100 for the Intermediate, Senior and Open Finals.

Ulster Wool have kindly donated £200 to the Junior shearing competitions.

The junior competition is a qualifier for the Worshipful Company of Woolmen Junior competition final to be held at the Royal Welsh Show with £1,600 prize money on offer. The top two junior Northern Ireland shearers who meet the following criteria will qualify. Must hold either a blue or bronze seal only and be under 26 years on 1st May in the current year and have shorn in the UK only.

As a means of encouragement to junior and intermediate shearers Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd has offered prizes for each of the finalists in the junior and intermediate. All finalists in these championships will receive a special trophy and a championship Lister shearing vest.

Results will contribute to the NISSA Sheep Shearing Circuit 2024.

LADIES SHEARING COMPETITION



Sponsored by Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd

All Comers Ladies Competition with a minimum of a bronze seal.

Prize Money: - 1st £150, 2nd £100, 3rd £60, 4th £40, 5th £30, 6th £20

Lister has kindly offered a hand piece to the winner and all competitors will receive a ladies shearing vest.

ROYAL ULSTER NATIONAL WOOL HANDLING COMPETITION



Sponsored by Ballyutoag Training

Prize Money 1st £100 2nd £75 3rd £50 4th £25

OPEN BLADE SHEARING CHAMPIONSHIP



Sponsored by Lucky Day Competitions

Heats - 2 sheep per competitor or any number of sheep predetermined by Chief Steward.

Final - 3 sheep per competitor or any number of sheep predetermined by Chief Steward.

Prize Money 1st £175, 2nd £125, 3rd £85, 4th £65, 5th £55, 6th £45.

The winner will be presented with the Walter G Hoy Memorial Trophy

Blade shearing competition is part of the Irish Blade shearing circuit.

ROYAL ULSTER NATIONAL BLADE SHEARING



Sponsored by Lucky Day Competitions

Prize money 1st £100, 2nd £75, 3rd £50, 4th £25

WOOL HANDLING DEVELOPMENT TEST – 3 Way France / Wales / Northern Ireland



Sponsored by Ulster Wool

Each team will consist of one Novice and one Open.

Prize Money 1st Prize £100, 2nd Prize £75, 3rd Prize £50.

WOOL HANDLING COMPETITION



LUCKY DAY
COMPETITIONS

Sponsored by Lucky Day Competitions

The Worshipful Company of Woolmen have kindly donated £200 towards the Novice Wool Handling section

Novice & Open

Heats - 3 sheep per competitor or any number of sheep predetermined by Chief Steward.

Final - 4 sheep per competitor or any number of sheep predetermined by Chief Steward.

“The Mooreview Jug” – Presented by Jayne Harkness-Bones – Presented to the winner of the Open Wool Handling Competition.

Prize Money Open - 1st £200, 2nd £165, 3rd £150, 4th £140, 5th £130, 6th £120

Novice - 1st £100, 2nd £80, 3rd £60, 4th £40, 5th £25, 6th £15

Special Prize £25 - for the best Northern Ireland novice wool handler

Special Prize £25 – for the best Northern Ireland open wool handler

Both awards are kindly provided by NISSA

Ulster Wool have kindly provided the vests for the resident wool workers.

SIX NATIONS SHEARING CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2024 6 Nations Shearing Championships will be held;

Machine Shearing held at Royal Bath & West Show 30th May – 1st June 2024

Blade Shearing held at Royal Highland Show 20th – 23rd June 2024

Wool Handling held at Balmoral Show 15th - 18th May 2024

The team from Northern Ireland will be the top 3 open shearers from the Royal Ulster Competition for Machine Shearing, top 2 competitors for the Blade Shearing and the Wool Handling from Balmoral Show 2023.

SIX NATIONS – WOOL HANDLING



Sponsored by Randex

Saturday 18th May at 1.45pm. Competitors to report by 10.30am

Prize Money:

1st - £200, 2nd - £180, 3rd - £160, 4th - £140, 5th - £120, 6th - £100 .



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RULES AND REGULATIONS

All sheep shearing competitions will be held under the World rules (published in the spring 2024 edition of Newsclip). Additional RUAS rules as listed are also included: -

1. Time points calculation – one penalty for 40 seconds for juniors and young farmers.
2. Competitors who either cut teat, pizzle or wound scoring 20 or more penalties, even though they have been placed, may not be eligible for any prizes in cash or kind.
3. Competitors entering the competition on the day will not be refunded their entry into the showgrounds.
4. Grinders will not be available for sharpening and are not permitted at the show. Anyone caught using or in possession of a grinder will be automatically disqualified and asked to leave the show grounds.

In the interest of safety, the use of worm drives is compulsory.

All competitors are also bound by the general regulations and instructions for the Society's Annual Show as contained in the main prize schedule - copies available online. Subject to any right of appeal contained in the Society's regulations and instructions to exhibitors, the chief steward's ruling shall be final on any matter not covered by British Isles Shearing Competition Association rules committee.

All shearers/wool handlers may be required to complete a declaration on the day confirming that they cleaned and disinfected their protective clothing and equipment before coming onto the Show premises. Any shearer/wool handler unable to complete such a declaration will not be permitted to compete and the RUAS reserve the right to inspect the clothing and equipment of all shearing/wool handling competitors.

Shearers should note that NO commercial symbols may be worn by competitors unless they have been provided by the sponsors for the competitions or approved by a chief steward.

Competitors should note that prize money will not be paid on the day. Cheques for prizes awarded (except where an objection is open) will be forwarded by post to the exhibitor to whom they have been awarded within 90 days after the Show.

NOTES

Ulster Wool – training the next generation of shearers and wool handlers



For over 20 years Ulster Wool has provided four stages of shearing certificates enabling Northern Ireland shearers to safely and effectively shear wool.

- Providing an exclusive training offer to the young farmer movement to help encourage more young farmers into the field.
- Silver to Platinum courses in shearing and wool handling are now accredited by Highfield – a global leader in work-based and apprenticeship qualifications.
- Working in partnership with key stakeholders – supporting the Northern Ireland shearing sector.



To find out more call us on 028 9446 2131
or email shearing@ulsterwool.com
ulsterwool.com

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