

GENERAL REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS
FOR LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS AND THEIR STOCK ATTENDANTS

UPDATED 24 FEBRUARY 2026

ENTRIES

Exhibitors are requested not to make entries unless they are prepared to comply strictly with these regulations.

DATA PROTECTION

Please see <https://www.balmoralshow.co.uk/privacy-policy> for the most up-to-date privacy policy at any time, or apply in writing to the Data Collection Manager at the RUAS office.

1. Entries can only be made online at www.balmoralshow.co.uk through your online portal.
2. Entries must be received online on or before the closing date.
3. To be entitled to make entries at members rates, the exhibitor must have paid their members subscription in full for the current year before their entry can be processed online at members rates.
4. Entries must be completed online. Society staff are not permitted to complete entries for an intending exhibitor.
5. All particulars required must be fully stated, otherwise the exhibit is liable to be disqualified and excluded from the Show. The exhibit must be as described on the online entry.
6. The exhibitor must ensure that the exhibit is correctly named. Any exhibit entered in the wrong class will be excluded from competition and entry fee forfeit. No alteration whatsoever can be made to an entry after the closing date.
7. In the case of an animal, the name of which has been changed, the exhibitor is required to insert both the present name and the former name on the online entry.
8. All exhibits must be bona fide the property of the exhibitor at the time of entry.
9. Animals may be entered in classes for which they are eligible, and an exhibitor may show any number of exhibits in the same class, unless class restrictions state otherwise.
10. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to ensure that the animal or exhibitor is eligible for the class entered, as no refunds will be made under any circumstance.
11. The Council reserves the right to reject any entry without assigning any reason. In the event of the Council being unable to accept any entry, notice will be given not later than six days after the final closing of the entries, and the entry fees lodged will be refunded, or in the case of there being insufficient entries in a class, the Council will withdraw the class from competition and return the entry fees.

12. Each exhibitor or agent must be prepared to verify every statement contained on the online entry in any manner the Council may require.
13. Where, in the opinion of the Council, there are either insufficient or too many entries in any one class, the Council may, without reference to the exhibitor or agent, amalgamate or divide such class. Amalgamation may be with any other similar or relevant class, with or without an increase in prize money, but where a class is divided, similar prize money will be paid in each division.

14. ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE ARRANGEMENTS

Arrival of Livestock, Poultry, Pigeons, Eggs, Rabbits & Cavies

Monday 11 May

Beef cattle & pigs from 12.00noon -10.00pm

Tuesday 12 May

Beef cattle & pigs from 8.00am to 10.00pm

Sheep (between 8.00am and 10.00pm) –

Goats (between 8.00am and 5.30pm and milked out not later than 7pm)

Wednesday 13 May

Dairy cattle, 6.00am-7.30am or after 8.30pm-10.00pm (see also Thursday)

Thursday 14 May

Dairy cattle 6.00am - 7.30am (see also Friday)

Friday 15 May

Dairy cattle 6.00am – 7.30am

POULTRY, PIGEONS, EGGS, RABBIT & CAVIES ARRIVALS

Poultry, Pigeons, Eggs, Rabbits and Cavies may arrive at the Showgrounds on Tuesday 12 May between 2.00pm and 8.00pm. The Poultry marquee will close at 8.30pm on Tuesday 12 May. No entries will be permitted to be delivered on Wednesday morning, the day of judging. All birds should be delivered in proper containers.

An inspection of all exhibits will take place on Tuesday evening.

Departure of Livestock, Poultry, Pigeons, Eggs, Rabbits & Cavies

No exhibit may be removed from the Show before the time stated for departure except in the case of illness requiring immediate veterinary treatment. To obtain permission to remove an animal in such circumstances, contact should be made with a senior member of RUAS staff or the chief steward, who will have an animal examined by the veterinary surgeon appointed for that purpose; and on his certifying that the animal is ill, and that the necessary veterinary treatment cannot be delayed without serious risk or damage to the animal and recommending its removal, the owner will be furnished with a letter of authorization to remove the animal from the Show.

Departure times as listed below: -

Saturday 16 May after 5.00pm

Poultry, Rabbits, Cavies, Pigeons and Eggs – The poultry marquee will close to the public at 6.00pm on Saturday, 16 May, and exhibitors should collect their exhibits before 8.30pm.

Saturday 16 May after 6.00pm

Dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, goats and pigs

There will be spot checks made on all pens. Please note there will be no removals before this stated time.

To avoid livestock having to wait in trailers, in traffic, Exhibitors must not remove livestock before the published time.

EXHIBITORS/ASSISTANTS ADMISSION PASSES

15. Exhibitors who have paid at least £25 (inc. VAT) entry fees in any section are entitled to a free admission wristband, which is not transferable and must be attached to your wrist before being presented at the gate. Exhibitors are entitled to one admission wrist band per stall booked (cattle) or two animals entered in other sections, subject to a maximum of ten wrist bands.

The wristband system operates as follows: Each exhibitor will receive an e-ticket which must be redeemed at the designated areas upon arrival at the Showgrounds in exchange for a wristband. An exhibitor will not be permitted to exchange e-tickets or collect a wristband on behalf of another individual.

Please note that lost wrist bands will not be replaced and will need to be repurchased.

Any person found making unlawful resale copies (or attempt to sell the wristbands) or ticket will have the passes confiscated without refund or other compensation.

All wristbands must be worn on the wrist and correctly fastened at all times during the event. Wristbands not worn as directed will be retained at the entrance gates. Tampering will invalidate the wristband. Stretching, tearing, taping or cutting the wristband is not permitted. If wristband tampering is evident, the wristband will be voided, and the wearer will be refused entry.

DELIVERY AND REMOVAL OF LIVESTOCK PASSES

16. The Society shall not be responsible in any way for the delivery of any exhibit at the Show, nor for the removal of any exhibit at the close of the Show.

JUDGING

17. No person shall in any way communicate with a judge engaged in judging without the sanction of the steward in attendance. Any exhibitor who enters the space in which judging is taking place may be disqualified from receiving a prize. Judges will equally be requested not to converse with spectators or to apply for any further information respecting exhibits

under their adjudication or examination, except in regard to age or lameness in the case of horses.

18. If the judge considers that any exhibit does not come within the class specification, they are requested to report the case to the stewards of the class.
19. The judge shall not award a prize for the best exhibit in any class unless there are at least two exhibits. The judge may recommend a prize to be awarded for any exhibit of distinguished merit, although there shall be no competition in the class.
20. The decision of the judge shall in all cases be final, except where misrepresentation or breach of the rules is discovered.
21. The judge is instructed to withhold a prize when sufficient merit does not appear.
22. The judging of any class should not be deemed to be complete until all exhibits have been dismissed by the judge.

JUDGES

23. Should any judge be unable to fulfil his/her engagement, the Council reserves the right to appoint another in his/her place, or additional judges if required, and to make any alterations necessary to the success of the Show.
24. Should a judge encounter an animal or animals which he/she has bred, owned, or in which he/she has had an interest, a request may be made to the chief steward of that section to appoint another suitable person to place such animals. If a chief steward is aware or made aware of such a situation, he should notify the judge.

OBJECTIONS

25. Objections to a judge's place of awards must be lodged at the office of the Society on the day such award is made. Any other objection must be made within seven days after the last day of the Show and will be considered at the next meeting of the Council. No objection will be considered by the Council unless accompanied by a fee of £20, which will be refunded if the objection is sustained.
26. The Council reserves the right to determine the outcome of all disputed cases, and the decision of the Council shall be final.

PAYMENT OF PRIZES

27. Payment for prizes awarded (except where an objection is open) through the Engage Portal within 90 days after the Show. You will receive an email when you can claim the prize money through your online portal. Any monies not claimed within one year from the last day of the show shall be forfeited.

CUPS AND TROPHIES

28. All cups and trophies in the possession of the Society are available to be claimed by winners but cannot be collected until after the Council meeting succeeding the Show subject to satisfactory security. All such cups and trophies must be returned to the

Society's offices at Balmoral Park at least ten clear days prior to the date of the next Show, in as good condition as that in which they were received.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 29.** Every reasonable precaution will be taken to ensure the safety and welfare of the animals, and the security of the implements or other items exhibited, the Society will not be responsible for loss or damage of any kind which may occur.
- 30.** Any exhibitor attempting to show stock whilst intoxicated will be prohibited from the judging ring. Stewards reserve the right to remove any exhibitor and animal from the ring. Drinking alcohol is strictly prohibited in all livestock areas while the Show is open to the public.
- 31.** Smoking is prohibited in all livestock areas.
- 32.** Livestock exhibitors are reminded that the Show environment can be upsetting for livestock, even those of normally placid temperament. Livestock with unstable or aggressive temperament should not be brought to the Showground. Fractious animals will be prohibited from the judging ring and/or parades.
- 33.** All electrical equipment being used on the Showground must have a current PAT Test Certificate. All electrical equipment will be checked on arrival and if no PAT Test Certificate is presented the appliance will be tested. Equipment which fails the PAT test will be marked accordingly and must be removed from the premises.

INSURANCE

- 34.** It is a condition of entry that exhibitors are required to provide their own insurance against fire, theft and other appropriate risk not only with regards to their own property but also against any third-party claims.

Every exhibitor must have Public Liability Insurance (we recommend a minimum of £5 million cover however independent advice should be sought from your Insurance Broker). Exhibitors must also have Employer Liability Insurance.

Each exhibitor shall be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage done to, occasioned by, or arising from any animal or item exhibited by him whether or not due to the negligence of the Society or any of its servants, agents, sub-contractors or other entrants, exhibitors or invitees and for its description as given in the catalogue.

EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY

- 35.** The Society being a charitable institution which organises the Show in order to promote agriculture and its ancillary industries within Northern Ireland requires all entrants and exhibitors as a fundamental condition of entry to undertake and accept that the Society whether or not due to its own negligence or that of its servants, agents, sub-contractors or other entrants, exhibitors or invitees or otherwise shall not be liable in any way for any claim for compensation or otherwise which may arise out of or be connected with the Show

including without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the holding, abandonment or alteration of the date of the Show, omission of any entry, the rejection or removal of any animal or other exhibit, the removal or exclusion of any owner, groom, rider or attendant from the Show, or the appointment, decision, act or omission of any judge, officer, official, employee or other person connected with the Show, nor shall the Society nor any of its judges, officers, officials, employees or other persons be in any way responsible or accountable for anything that may happen (from any cause or circumstance whatever) to the exhibitors or their attendants, or to any exhibit or property brought into the Showground, or for anything else in connection with, or arising out of, or attributable to the Society's Show.

The most careful arrangements are made for the proper accommodation of all exhibits, but any loss or damage sustained, whether arising from accident, fire, wrong delivery, or from any other cause must be borne by the exhibitors, the exhibits being penned and exhibited at the exhibitors' own risk.

CONDUCT OF EXHIBITORS AND THEIR ATTENDANTS

- 36.** Owners of stock should note that any act of disobedience or discourtesy to the officials of the Show on the part of the owner, stockman/fitter, exhibitor or attendant may result in the elimination of the owner's exhibit or exhibits from the show.

VETERINARY REGULATIONS & TREATMENT

- 37. Diseased Animals.** Exhibitors should not bring any diseased animal into the Show premises, and if under any circumstances this regulation be violated, the exhibitor of the diseased animal will be solely responsible for any claims that may arise for damage or loss to other exhibitors or any other persons, and the Council holds itself free from liability in such cases. Should any animal manifest symptoms of disease during the Show, it must be removed immediately from the premises, on an order to that effect by a senior member of the staff or by a veterinary surgeon appointed by the Society.
- 38. Ringworm** - Exhibitors are advised that animals suffering from ringworm or mange must not be brought to the Showground. Any animals so affected will require to be removed from the premises immediately.
- 39. Veterinary Treatment.** The Society appoints a panel of veterinary surgeons to be on duty during the hours of the Show. Their role is to deal with requests from judges, stewards and other Society officials and to attend to emergencies that may arise. It is a condition of entry that these veterinary surgeons may on their own authority give to any animal such emergency treatment as they may consider appropriate in the event that the owner or his representative cannot immediately be found. Exhibitors will be required to pay any such veterinary surgeon for the full cost of treatment administered, whether in an emergency as above or if such treatment is requested by the exhibitor. If an animal is under medication the exhibitor must declare this to the Society in advance of the Show.
- 40. Blood Sampling.** The Society condemns the use of prohibited or unlicensed drugs in livestock or bloodstock production and reserves the right to take whatever samples it considers necessary for analysis. Should, subsequently, trace of any prohibited or unlicensed drug be found, penalties will be applied in line the regulations and instructions to exhibitors. Furthermore, since such positive findings may be in contravention of the Food Safety (NI) Order, 1991 and its subordinate legislation the results will be reported to the Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs.

PLACARDS OR ADVERTISING MATERIAL

- 41.** Placards or advertising material will be permitted to be placed over animal stalls, or pens but only in reference to animals exhibited and herd represented, and awards achieved at the Annual Show in 2026. It is not permitted to display rosettes/awards won at previous Shows. (not applicable to poultry section).

PENALITIES

- 42.** In case it shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Council that the owner of an animal exhibited, or any person in his employment, or under his control, has been guilty of any violation of the regulations and instructions, has made a false statement in the certificate of entry, or substituted another animal for that described on the entry; has placed an animal in a pen or stall, by day or night, other than that to which he is entitled, or has been guilty of any practice to deceive or mislead, or to secure an unfair advantage (including the use of prohibited or unlicensed drugs), such exhibitor shall forfeit all prizes, cups, etc., awarded to him/her at the Show, together with all fees paid by him/her, and his/her animal or animals shall be liable to be removed from the Showgrounds, and such owner shall be liable to be prevented from competing at this or any further Show of the Society.

The Society reserves the power to reject or remove any animal or other exhibit from the Show.

POSTPONEMENT/CANCELLATION

- 43.** The Society reserves the right to postpone or abandon the Show, but will not be responsible for the loss incurred by any intending Exhibitor resulting from such postponement or abandonment.

Cancellation of the Show – If the Show is cancelled by the Society as a result of any circumstances outside the Society's control, the Society will refund in full all entry fees and stalling fees, caravan site bookings, parking ticket costs and any pre-bought extra tickets. Exhibitors should note that there will be no refund of any Society Membership fees.

Cancellation of any Section - If any section(s) of the Show is or are cancelled by the Society as a result of any circumstances whether within or out of the Society's reasonable control, the Society will (a) in respect of the cancellation section(s) refund the entry fees and stalling fees, and (b) unless the exhibitor has also entered for a section which is not cancelled, refund any caravan site bookings, parking ticket costs and pre-bought extra tickets. Exhibitors should note that there will be no refund of any Society Membership Fees.

STEWARDS

- 44.** No one shall act as a steward of a class while he/she has an exhibit in the ring.
- 45.** The Council delegates full power to the stewards to enforce all the regulations.

DOGS

46. No dogs are permitted in the Showground.

RULES & REGULATIONS SPECIFIC TO CATTLE, GOATS and PIGS

Also see general regulations and instructions to exhibitors

PARADES

47. Parades of prize-winning cattle (beef and dairy) will take place on Saturday, 16 May in the Main Arena at the times stated in the programme, and stockmen must be in attendance with their animals one hour before the time of the parade. 1st and 2nd-place animals in each class are required to participate, and all other prize-winning animals are invited to parade. If 1st and 2nd placed animals are absent from a Parade, the exhibitor is liable to forfeit the prize or prizes won by the animal.
48. The beef and dairy interbreed champions will lead the parade, followed by each breed in prize schedule order, with the champion and reserve champion leading their respective breed. Pair's selections should parade in catalogue order within their own breed and only pair-off on entry to the arena as directed by stewards.

GENERAL

49. **White Coats.** Exhibitors of cattle and pigs are particularly requested to provide white coats or breed regulation dress for all persons attending their animals in the judging rings or in parades. Reference to a sponsor or the herd being shown will only be permitted on the breast pocket of white coats. White coats are obligatory for goat exhibitors.
50. **Numbers.** Neck numbers will be provided for cattle. Numbers corresponding with the catalogue number of the animal will be provided for goats and pigs and must be worn by the attendants whenever they enter the ring.
51. **Assistants.** Exhibitors must provide competent people to take charge of their stock during the entire time at the Showgrounds. There should be a maximum of one handler in the ring per animal with the exception of Bulls where they can be two handlers. If more than one handler is required, this will be at the steward's discretion.
52. **Young Exhibitors.** All handlers under 14 on the day of the Show and exhibiting in a class other than a class for young handlers must provide a certificate of competence signed by his/her parent or guardian.
53. In all classes animals must be free from clinical signs of disease; injury or physical abnormality such as would affect the usefulness of the animal. Compulsory veterinary examination prior to judging will not be required but the Judges will take any such clinical signs into account when awarding prizes.

54. Identification of Ownership. No identification which might indicate the ownership of stock exhibited will be permitted.

55. Grooming of animals will not be allowed in the ring.

FEEDING/BEDDING OF LIVESTOCK

56. The Society does not take charge of or feed any livestock (poultry and pigeons' exception). Hay will not be supplied by the Society. Exhibitors should arrange their own supply of fodder.

Pigs and goat pens are all pre bedded. Cattle exhibitors will be issued with straw tickets for one bale per stall and will bed their own stalls pre-Show. Straw is available each morning for re-bedding.

REGULATIONS SPECIFIC TO CATTLE EXHIBITORS

See general regulations and instructions for exhibitors.
See also method of accepting entries printed before the cattle section.

Procedures for movement of cattle are listed in the Show Guidance, a copy of the up to date version can be downloaded from the DAERA website.

57. Disease Control - Only animals free from disease restrictions, including Tuberculosis, Brucellosis, Bluetongue and Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (herd or individual animal restrictions) may be permitted to move to a Show.

Bovine Tuberculosis Controls - To minimise the risk to other livestock, exhibitors are encouraged to have "Show" animals tested for Tuberculosis by their Private Veterinary Practitioner in the 30 days beforehand.

To minimise the risk to their own herd, exhibitors are encouraged to quarantine show animals and have them tested for Tuberculosis by their Private Veterinary Practitioner at least 42 days after their last appearance at a Show and before re-integration to the main herd.

Bovine Brucellosis Controls - Pre-movement testing for Bovine Brucellosis is no longer required for movement to shows.

To be eligible to compete all cattle entries must be vaccinated against Bluetongue virus (BTV-3). The measure is necessary to safeguard animal health and protect the wider livestock industry.

BVD Regulations

Following progress in BVD eradication, and the growing awareness of animal health export requirements, RUAS have decided to increase BVD animal health status requirements for Northern Ireland herds for entry into Balmoral Show 2026. The main reasons for this decision are to promote animal health and continue to be an all-inclusive event. (Irish herds have these

standards certified on entry through Intra Community Health Certification). To avoid the additional expenses to Northern Ireland exhibitors of formal certification, RUAS have asked DAERA for assistance to assess and screen the Northern Ireland exhibitors for eligibility.

To satisfy the requirements of higher BVD health standards, RUAS are requesting that Northern Ireland herd exhibitors can satisfy that their herd meets the standards of a Low Risk BVD herd. This assessment will provide assurance to all exhibitors in respect of disease transmission.

The Requirements for herd clearance are as follows.

- Within 30 days of the Show all animals within the herd, and any associated herds, must have a known BVD negative status i.e., a status of BVDN or INDNEG. (Calves under 30 days of age, at the time of the show commencing, are exempt). BVD inconclusive animals are not permitted. Any animal/s with the status BVDU (unknown) or no recorded status will need to be tested negative prior to the event. Note that imported animals may require testing if their BVD status cannot be validated.
- The herd must not have had any BVD positive animals in the 18 months prior to the show. If a BVD animal has been detected the herd cannot achieve low risk status until 18 months after the removal of this animal.

As testing can take time, potential exhibitors should review their own herd status as early as possible and to take remedial action as required. Herd keepers who are unsure of the BVD status of animals within their herd, can check this by requesting an up-to-date herd list from their local DAERA Direct office <<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/contacts/daera-direct-offices>> with BVD statuses shown. This will allow you to check in advance if you need to have any animals BVD tested.

DAERA will check the eligibility of all herds (and associated herds) applying to exhibit within 30 days of the show commencing. Eligible herds will receive an approval letter from DAERA by email. This letter must be presented to RUAS to gain entry to the show grounds.

If, following initial checks, a herd is not eligible, the keeper will be notified by DAERA in the form of a 'Further Testing' letter which will be sent via email. Gaining eligibility is the responsibility of the herd keeper/exhibitor. To become eligible, you will need to satisfy the BVD requirements specified above.

All further testing must be completed, with results available, a minimum of 5 working days prior to show commencement to make the cutoff for herd eligibility assessment.

At this point a final report will be completed by DAERA and all remaining eligible letters will be issued out.

If you do not receive an eligible letter, please do not attempt to attend the show as you will be refused entry.

Note: by entering the show you permit DAERA to both run herd BVD eligibility reports and to share all eligibility information with RUAS.

Identification and Movement

BALMORAL SHOW HERD NUMBER: S09001

All cattle must be properly identified and comply with the Cattle Identification Regulations.

General Principles

- Cattle going to a Show must be included on an electronic movement document with the “Show” as the destination herd.
- Cattle moving from a Show must return to the herd they came from.
- Cattle from the ROI may only attend Show premises in NI that are operating as EU Approved Assembly Centres for the relevant species on that day.

The number of Shows to which cattle may travel is not limited provided these conditions are met on all occasions.

Cattle Movements to and from a Show for Keepers registered in Northern Ireland

On arrival at the Show, the cattle must be accompanied by a print-out of an electronic movement document created by the herd keeper on NIFAIS-on-Line (NOL).

For returning animals home from the Show, the Show Operative will produce a seller confirmed e-document returning the animal(s) to the presenting Herd.

Keepers registered to use NOL do not require any further documentation for the journey home but must confirm the move home on NOL within 7 days.

Movements to and from a Show for Cattle Keepers registered in the Republic of Ireland (ROI).

Note - In order to receive cattle from the ROI, the **“Relevant part of the Show premises”** must be operating to **full EU Assembly Centre Standards** for cattle and be approved for this purpose.

Advice on and approval of this must be sought from the local Divisional Veterinary Office. As part of these requirements ROI cattle must be kept segregated from NI cattle and must be re-exported directly from the Show premises to their premises of origin in the ROI as soon as the Show ends.

Cattle imported directly to a Show from the ROI.

Note - animals must be registered on NIFAIS by DAERA staff before they can move into a Show. This registration process will be carried out by the local DAERA office on receipt of the Health certificate issued by a Department Vet in the ROI, passport and "Show" MC2 documents from the Show Organiser. The registration process will allow DAERA to produce the necessary paperwork for the move out of the Show. At present it is not possible for Show Organisers to electronically move imported animals into a Show.

Cattle entering a Show will be accompanied by a Passport and a Health Certificate issued by a Department Vet in the ROI.

The Show will be issued with its own MC2 self-written notification book.

The Show Operative will enter the animal(s) details onto the MC2 then send the completed MC2A (White) MC2B (Yellow) and MC2C (Pink) documents to the local DAERA Direct Office at the latest by the next working day.

MC2D (Blue) should be retained in MC2 book.

Cattle Re-exported Directly from a Show to the ROI.

Cattle being re-exported to ROI will need to be accompanied by:

- An MC2L (produced by the local DAERA Direct Office);
- The passport (which accompanied the animal to the Show);
- Their original Health Certification suitably endorsed by the Veterinarian responsible for the Show;
- A Non Co-minglement Certificate which will be issued by the Veterinarian responsible for the Show.

58. Stalls –The stalling provided by the RUAS is 2.45m high from the floor to the top of the stalling bar by 1.39m wide, depth 3m. Exhibitors are permitted to erect a framework on the sides of the stalls up to the height of the side trombone dividers 1.2m maximum height. A tension wire will be erected along the top of the stalling making the height from the ground to the top of the wire 3m. The wire is there as a guide to the height you must not exceed. Lightweight PVC banners only may be attached to this wire.

Exhibitors are not permitted to transfer stalls to another exhibitor.

The Society has a right to cut pens if required.

59. Bedding - Cattle exhibitors should use their straw tickets in their pack which allows 1 bale per stall to bed their stalls on arrival. Limited additional straw will be available each morning thereafter for re bedding.

60. In Milk Classes Animals entered in in-milk classes may where eligible be transferred to the appropriate in-calf classes if they are uncalved at time of

judging. Animals entered in in-calf classes may be eligible transferred to the appropriate in-milk classes if they have calved at time of judging. Exhibitors are responsible for drawing Society's attention to this requirement where it arises.

- 61. Washing of Milk Cattle.** All cattle must be properly washed before being milked.
- 62. Milking.** All dairy cows and heifers in milk must be milked out by 8.00pm on the evening prior to judging to the satisfaction of the chief steward, or his nominee. Milk produced becomes the property of the Society and no direct payment will be made to exhibitors.
- 63. Pressure Pumps.** The use of pressure pumps for the washing of cattle is permitted only in the washing areas.
- 64. Snaffle, Rings & Neckties.** It is compulsory for **ALL** beef animals entered to wear snaffles and all bulls to wear permanent rings. No exceptions – no snaffle or permanent ring – no showing. When animals are stalled, they are required to have a necktie.
- 65. Tampering with Exhibits.** No artificial device may be adopted for the purpose of interfering with the udders of cattle. No cows or heifers presented in the judging ring may have sealed teats. Any exhibitor found infringing this regulation will be disqualified from exhibiting at the Show.

QUALIFICATION OF CLASSES

- 66. Cows & Heifers** - All cows and heifers aged three years old in competition must have had a live calf in 2025 or be in calf. This requirement will not apply to class 666. Senior heifers in the beef section may be shown in calf or with calf at foot.
- 67. Breeding Male Stock** - Evidence will be required that all breeding male stock (except those born on or after 1st January 2003), for which prizes may be awarded, have produce offspring prior to the date of the Show. Prizes will be withheld until certificates to that effect, when required, are produced.

JUDGING IN CATTLE CLASSES

- 68.** In the cattle classes the attention of the judges will be particularly directed to the symmetry, early maturity, size, purity of breed and general qualities characteristic of the several animals, due allowance being made for age and other circumstances. They shall not award a prize for an "overfed" animal, the object of the Society being to encourage superior animals for breeding purposes.
- 69.** The judges shall not attempt to draw the udders of dry cattle, and if milking cows are to be handled, the Judges shall wash and disinfect their hands before and after drawing each or any animal.

WITHHOLDING PRIZE MONEY

70. Withholding Prize Money - In all classes for cows and heifers in calf, the animal, if entered in a beef breed class must have calved before 31 December 2025. Prize Money may be withheld until the breed society's notification of acceptance of calf for registration or a veterinary certificate is received as evidence that the animal has calved within the stipulated time. Such notification must be received by the Society's office not later than the closing date of entries for the succeeding Show.

REGULATIONS SPECIFIC TO SHEEP and GOATS

See general regulations and instructions for exhibitors.

71. Short Docking of Sheep. In the interests of animal welfare, it is recommended that all exhibitors comply with the animal welfare regulations. Sufficient tail (not wool) should be retained to cover the vulva of female sheep and the anus of male sheep. All sheep present at the Show will be inspected in the pens by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Veterinary Officers.

72. Procedure for Movement of Northern Ireland Sheep into and out of Shows

To be eligible to compete all sheep entries must be vaccinated against Bluetongue virus (BTV-3). The measure is necessary to safeguard animal health and protect the wider livestock industry.

All sheep, irrespective of their date of birth, must be identified and comply with the Sheep and Goats Identification Regulations and be registered in the flock of the exhibitor.

All sheep must be identified correctly before arriving at the Show. Sheep arriving at the Show without the correct identification will be refused admittance.

Procedures for movement of sheep and goats are listed in the Show Guidance for exhibitors. A copy can be downloaded from the DAERA website.

Balmoral Show cannot accept sheep or goat entries from the ROI as our premises do not operate an EU Assembly Centre.

Movement of Sheep to and from a Central Point of Recording (CPR) Show

Sheep moving to a CPR Show must be accompanied by a fully and accurately completed SG2 self-written movement document, however, the individual tag numbers do not have to be recorded on the SG2.

The total number of sheep being moved into the Show must still be entered on the SG2.

The ear tag numbers will be read electronically on entry to the Show and a list of tag numbers will be given to the exhibitor.

The exhibitor must complete and sign a declaration stating that the sheep will be returned to their flock of origin directly from the Show premises.

On departure from the Show the ear tag numbers will again be read electronically, and the exhibitor will be issued with a C movement document. This C document must accompany the sheep back to their premises of origin.

Both the tag list and the C document must be kept with the exhibitor's flock register.

Procedure for Movement of Northern Ireland Goats into and out of Shows

Identification – for moves to and from a Show

All goats, irrespective of their date of birth, must be identified and comply with the Sheep and Goats Identification Regulations.

All goats and kids must be identified correctly before arriving at the Show. Goats arriving at the Show without identification will be refused admittance.

Movement - Goats Going to a Show - See Annex C [DAERA website].

- Movement of goats to Shows must be accompanied by a fully and accurately completed SG2 self-written movement document.
- The individual identification numbers must be recorded on the SG2 document (it is acceptable to attach a printed schedule listing the tag numbers to the SG2). These numbers should be checked by the Show Operators against the animals presented before the animals are allowed entry to the Show.
- The SG2 movement documents must be stamped by the Show Secretary. The white copy must be sent to the local DAERA Direct Office at the latest by the next working day.
- Show Operators must have books of movement documents (SG2s) for goats and separate books for sheep. Movement of Goats from a Show - See Annex D [DAERA Website]
- The yellow copy of the SG2 provided by the Show Operator must accompany the animals back from the Show. This must include details of the Show and receiving herd, the individual tag numbers (manually added or scanned list) or be cross referenced/stapled to the pink copy of the incoming SG2 (only if the whole batch moves out at the same time). Section 3 of the outgoing SG2 must be signed by the herd keeper.

- Both move in and move out white copies of the SG2 must be sent to the Show's local DAERA Direct Office by the Show Operator within 7 days.

73. To enable exhibitors to have maximum flexibility in selecting sheep which they wish to exhibit at the Show, the following method of making entries will be applied.

Exhibitors must book the number of pens which they wish to use during the Show and pay the appropriate penning fee. They may then enter as many sheep as they wish but the number of sheep of each breed which can be brought to the Show will be limited to two sheep per pen. Each exhibitor will book pens required but if at close of entries there are more pens booked than the available capacity, exhibitors will be advised of any necessary reduction in pens and in such instances only will a refund be made of the penning fees after the Show.

REGULATIONS SPECIFIC TO PIG EXHIBITORS

See general regulations and instructions for exhibitors.

74. Only pigs from (OADF) status holdings may enter the show.

Testing for Aujeszky's Disease is no longer required for entry to shows.

A protocol has not been agreed between DAERA and ROI authorities so pigs from the ROI cannot be entered in the Show.

Procedures for movement of pigs are listed in the Show Guidance for exhibitors. A copy can be downloaded from the DAERA website.

Identification requirements

The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012 came into operation on 19th March 2012.

Under this legislation **all** pigs, regardless of age or category, entering the Show must be clearly identified with an **ear tag** bearing the full identification (ID) mark – the holding **number** and a unique individual number of up to 4 digits. The holding number must be pre-printed on the ear tag. **Pigs must have ear tags applied correctly before arriving at the Show. Pigs arriving at the Show without ear tags will be refused admittance.**

However, if a pig was born prior to 19 March 2012, was identified under the previous legislation, The Aujeszky's Disease Order (Northern Ireland) 1994, and that identification is still in place and clearly legible, then the pig does not have to be re-identified as above. The Aujeszky's Disease Order required an ear tag or tattoo with the holding number and in the case of a breeding pig an individual number of not more than 4 characters.

Movement of Pigs to a Show

The movement of pigs to Shows must be accompanied by a PM1 document fully and accurately completed and signed by the herd keeper.

The original (yellow) PM1 and the first (white) copy must accompany the pigs to the Show.

The full identification (ID) marks must be recorded on the PM1 document. It is acceptable to attach a schedule to the PM1 listing the identification marks. The schedule must be cross referenced to the serial number of the PM1. These numbers should be checked by the Show Operators against the ear tags in the animals presented before the animals are allowed entry to the Show.

The PM1 movement document details the movement of pigs from the farm to a Show premises. The white copy of the PM1 must be sent to the local DAERA Direct Office by the show operator on the day of the movement, or where this is not possible on the next working day.

Movement of Pigs from a Show

The Show Operator must accurately complete and sign a PM1 and provide this (yellow original) to the herd keeper to accompany each batch of pigs moving from the Show.

It is acceptable to attach a schedule to the PM1 listing the identification marks. The schedule must be cross referenced to the serial number of the PM1. The schedule may actually be a copy of the incoming PM1 document but only if the whole batch moves out at the same time.

REGULATIONS SPECIFIC POULTRY, PIGEONS, EGGS, RABBITS & CAVIES

See general Regulations and Instructions to Exhibitors

RABBITS - entry limit. Entries will be restricted to the first 100 rabbits.

Exhibitors of rabbits must ensure their rabbits have a clean supply of water at all times during the Show.

75. Restricted access during judging - During judging on Wednesday morning, access to the poultry marquee and rabbit marquee will be restricted to judges and stewards.

76. Exhibitors in the poultry section will not be permitted to place any advertising or evidence of ownership of exhibits on their cages.

77. 'For Sale' signs are not permitted on pens of exhibits.

78. Any birds or Rabbits deemed to be unhealthy will be disqualified for the show immediately.

Where appropriate it is recommended that all entries in the poultry and pigeon section are vaccinated against Newcastle disease.

79. Feeding of exhibits. The exhibits will be fed by the exhibitor, steward or an appointed competent person. Under no circumstances will any person be allowed to interfere with an exhibit, without the permission of the stewards.

80. Disposal of eggs - To minimise any risk of disease, all eggs laid by exhibits will be destroyed.

81. Fraudulent practices. The judges will be instructed to disqualify and report to the chief steward any exhibit which they may detect to have been artificially trimmed, coloured, [except minorcas] or otherwise unfairly dealt with.