



Young Farmers'  
Clubs of Ulster

## Sheep Stock Judging and Assessment

*Competitors are required to Judge sheep as follows:*

**Members aged 12 -18 years** are asked to Judge two rings of 4 animals by placing them in order of merit and score an additional animal according to the appropriate scale of points.

A verbal assessment on the animal is given to a Judge (see Additional information - Assessment)

**Members aged 18-30 years** are asked to judge two rings of 4 animals by placing them in order of merit and give their reasoning on placing the second ring of four animals to a Judge.

Participants in these age groups are also required to assess animal A in ring one according to the appropriate scale of points (see Additional Information - Assessment). This is to be used as a tie break only.

### **Where:**

Competitors attend area competitions at appointed venues. The top 4 participants in each age group go forward to the Northern Ireland Finals

### **Eligibility:**

The Sheep Judging and Assessment competitions are open to all members between the ages of 12 and 30, who hold a valid YFCU Membership.

### **Timing and Penalties:**

- Members are permitted 10 minutes to judge each ring of stock.
- Members 12-18 are allowed an additional 10 minutes to score the assessment animal.
- Participants must go directly and give their verbal assessment or reasons to a Judge.
- They will be permitted three minutes to present their case after which the Judge may ask questions for clarification.
- It is the competitor's responsibility to be present for interview at the correct time, failure to do so may lead to disqualification or the loss of marks.
- Failure to comply with Steward instructions will lead to Disqualification.

### **Marking Scale**

#### **(Members 12-18 Years)**

- Competitors may gain a maximum of **50 marks** for each ring and **55 points** for assessing the individual animal.
- The Judge may also award a maximum of **50 marks** for Accuracy of Statement and **15 marks** for Fluency and Manner.
- The Maximum total possible for a participant is **220 marks**.

#### **(Members 18-30 Years)**

- Competitors may gain a maximum of **50 marks** for each ring.

- The Judge may also award a maximum of **50 marks** for Accuracy Of Statement and **15 marks** for Fluency and Manner.
- The maximum total possible **165 marks**.

**Closing Date:**

The closing date for entries will be provided by HQ.

**Proficiencies:**

Proficiencies will be awarded on marks gained at area competitions.

**Prizes:**

Cups will be awarded at the Northern Ireland Finals.

**Discipline:**

Clubs must appoint one person to be responsible for their members' behaviour during the event.

**Protests:**

See Protests in General Rules Section.

**Additional Information:**

**STOCK:**

- Competitors may be asked to judge any of the following types (shorn or unshorn);
  - a) Any pure bred ewe, including Blackface.
  - b) Any Crossbred Ewe.
  - c) Hoggets.
  - d) Ewe lambs for breeding.
- Where possible the selection should be from a, b or c.
- All Female stock should be judged on commercial lines and taken as clinically correct; therefore no teats shall be drawn.
- Unless the steward directs participants to the contrary, the udder should otherwise be judged and assessed as usual.

**ASSESSMENT:**

- In Addition to placing the two rings of stock, competitors also have to assess an individual animal according to the marking scale set out overleaf.
- Members aged 18-30 years assess animal "A" in ring one (Tie Break)
- Members aged 12-18 years assess an individual animal once they have judged ring 2.
- Note, since the Executive Committee wishes to maintain a desirable ratio between the marks for the two rings and the assessment, only half the marks for assessment will be counted in **(110/2=55)**

<b>Heading</b>	<b>Max.</b>
General Appearance and Conformation to breed or cross-breed type.	20
Head, Ears and Neck	10
Mouth*	10
Body Size	25
Back, Hindquarters, Udder	20
Fleece or (if Shorn) Fleece Potential*	10
Legs and Feet 15	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>110</u></b>

\*The heading Mouth is meant to include muzzle.


\*Fleece Potential is defined as the degree to which signs of:

- (a) hair and coloured fibres are absent and
- (b) an even, dense, vigorous growth of quality wool, including belly wool, is present.

**Additional Information:**

- In no circumstances will competitors be permitted to take part in a higher or lower age group than that for which they qualify. Infringement of this rule will lead to disqualification.
- Registration is strictly 6.30pm-7.30pm. It is at the discretion of the County to allow late arrivals to take part in the competition.
- When arranging practices and competitions; headquarters, counties, and clubs must use flocks that are disease free and take adequate protection by providing footbaths and asking members to use suitable footwear.
- Farms being used for forthcoming area competitions may not be used for practices.

The



**Young Farmers' Clubs of Ulster**

**Judge/ Competitors Card**

SHEEP Club \_\_\_\_\_ Age Group \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE) \_\_\_\_\_

Membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

	Possible	Competitor's Assessment	Error
General Appearance and Confirmation to Breed or Crossbred type. To be awarded for "eye appeal" only and not for handling	20		
Head, ears and neck	10		
Mouth*	10		
Body size	25		
Back, hindquarters, udder	20		
Fleece or (if shorn) fleece potential**	10		
Legs and feet	15		

\*Mouth is also meant to include muzzle.  
\*\* Fleece potential is defined as the degree to which signs of (a) hair and coloured fibres are absent and (b) an even, dense, vigorous growth of quality wool, including belly wool, is present.

REASONING )

ABILITY )

Judge's Score...

Less total error for all parts...

Competitor's Score for Assessment...

Less 50%...

Assessment Score...


Accuracy of Statement 50...

Fluency and manner 15...

Score...

Ring 1				
Ring 2				

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_



**Young Farmers' Clubs of Ulster**

**Competitors Card**

SHEEP Club \_\_\_\_\_ Age Group \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE) \_\_\_\_\_

Membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

	Possible	Competitor's Assessment	Error
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Ring 1				
Ring 2				

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

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Executive Committee of the YFCU reserves the right to amend or cancel any of the foregoing rules as it may consider necessary.