



Young Farmers' Clubs of Ulster
475 Antrim Road
Belfast
County Antrim
BT15 3BD

Competition	Stock Judging - Sheep
Sponsor	Fane Valley

Members 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 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.

Competitors attend area competitions at appointed venues in April. The top 4 participants in each age group go forward to the Northern Ireland Finals which normally take place in July.

Eligibility

The Sheep Judging and Assessment competitions are open to all members between the ages of 11 and 30, who hold a valid YFCU membership.

Timing and Penalties

Members are permitted 30 minutes to Judge each ring of stock. Participants must go directly and give a judge their verbal assessment or reasons. They will be allowed three minutes to present their case after which the Judge may ask questions for clarification.

Marking Scale

Members 12-18 Years

Competitors may gain a maximum of:

- 50 marks for each ring
- 55 marks for assessing the individual animal

The Judge may also award a maximum of:

- 50 marks for Accuracy of Statement
- 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
- 15 marks for Fluency and Manner

Proficiencies

Proficiencies will be awarded on marks gained at area competitions.

Prizes

Cups and certificates will be awarded at the Northern Ireland Finals.

Each age group receives a cup, plaque and certificate for first place and a certificate for second and third place.

Discipline

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

Protests

See Protests in General Rules Section. The Executive Committee of the YFCU reserves the right to amend or cancel any of the foregoing rules as it may consider necessary.

Assessment

In addition to placing the two rings of stock competitors also must assess an individual animal according to the marking scale

Members aged 18–30 years assess animal “A” in ring one (Tie Break) and Members aged 12–18 years assess an individual animal once they have judged ring 2. 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 the assessment will be counted in ($110/2=55$).

All Competitors must follow the directions of the Stewards and adhere to the time permitted for each of the tasks.

Heading	Maximum Score
General Appearance	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

*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.
- Registration is strictly between 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 herds 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.