



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS

Competitions Programme 2025-2026

NFYFC Young Stockjudge of the Year

18 & under

R U L E S

Competition Aim

To provide YFC members with the opportunity to put their training to the test by judging high quality livestock and presenting their findings to industry experts. Members are then 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, presentation and time keeping skills.

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>
along with the **AHDB Guide to Stockjudging and Video.**

1. DATE & VENUE

- 1.1. After Area Finals, the National Final will be held at NFYFC Stockjudging Weekend Venue TBC **Sunday 30th August 2026.**
- 1.2. The Meat Identification Questionnaire will be completed online (via Zoom) on **Thursday 27th August 2026.**

2. REPRESENTATION

- 2.1. Counties may enter up to **eight** competitors in the Area Eliminators per 600 members or part thereof.
- 2.2. Areas will be represented by **two** competitors per 3,000 members or part thereof in the Competition Final. (Northern Area 4, Eastern Area 2 and East Midlands 2, West Midlands Area 2, South West Area 4, South East Area 2 and Wales 4)

3. ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. The Competitor must be 18 years of age or under on 1st September 2025 and full members of a Club affiliated to the NFYFC.

4. SUBSTITUTION

- 4.1. If the competitor through to the National Final has to withdraw from the competition, then the next highest placed competitor from the Area Round will be invited, by the Area Committee, to represent the Area. NFYFC must be notified at the earliest opportunity of the substitution.
- 4.2. **All substitutes must have been eligible to compete in the County Final.**

5. PROCEDURE

NOTE: All competitors and competition organisers to note on-farm/action market bio-security controls and advise participants and stewards ahead of the event. For example suitable footwear for footbaths.

5.1. AREA EVENT

- 5.1.1. Competitors will be required to judge four rings of stock (4 Dairy Cows, 4 Butchers Cattle, 4 Commercial Breeding Ewes, and 4 Butchers Pigs) and each member will give reasons on all four rings of stock.
 - 5.1.1.1. If pigs are unavailable for use they will be substituted by 4 Butchers Lambs.
- 5.1.2. Animals in each ring will be designated A, B, X, Y.
- 5.1.3. Competitors will be required to complete a simple multi-choice Animal Health and Husbandry Questionnaire.

5.2. FINAL EVENT

- 5.2.1. Competitors will be required to:

- 5.2.1.1. Place and give reasons on four beef animals judged as butchers animals
- 5.2.1.2. Place and give reasons on four breeding ewes judged for breeding potential
- 5.2.1.3. Place and give reasons on four butchers pigs judged for slaughter (should access to pigs be limited then it may be necessary to substitute with butchers lambs)
- 5.2.1.4. Place and give reasons on four dairy animals as productive animals
- 5.2.2. Animals in each ring will be designated A, B, X, Y.
- 5.2.3. Competitors will be required to complete a simple multi-choice Animal Health and Husbandry Questionnaire.
- 5.2.4. Competitors will be required to identify cuts of meat.

6. TIMING – AREA ROUNDS AND FINAL

- 6.1. Competitors will be allowed 10 minutes to judge each ring of stock and at least 5 minutes for preparing reasons.
- 6.2. Competitors will be allowed up to 2 minutes for stating their reasons on each ring of stock to the Judge. Competitors exceeding this time limit will incur penalties at the rate of 2 marks for each 15 seconds or part thereof. The marks to be deducted from their total score.
- 6.3. Competitors will be allowed a maximum of 30 minutes to complete both the Animal Health and Husbandry questionnaire and meat identification task.

7. SCALE OF MARKS

AREA ROUNDS

Stockjudging:	Placing on 4 rings (4 x 50)	200
	Reasons on 4 rings (4 x 50)	200
Questionnaire		100
Total marks per competitor		500

NATIONAL FINAL

Stockjudging:	Placing on 4 rings (4 x 50)	200
	Reasons on 4 rings (4 x 50)	200
Questionnaire		100
Identify cuts of meat		100
Total marks per competitor		600

8. AWARDS

- 8.1. Area Event: Areas to organise their own awards if they wish
- 8.2. Final:
 - 8.2.1. HSBC Challenge Trophy and NFYFC Prize Card to the winner.
 - 8.2.2. NFYFC Prize Cards to competitors placed 2nd and 3rd
 - 8.2.3. NFYFC Certificate of Achievement will be awarded to all competitors
 - 8.2.4. At the National Final a special award will be given to those receiving the most marks in the Meat and Questionnaire element of the competition.

9. NOTES

- 9.1. NFYFC will provide all judging cards for the Area Rounds and Final.
- 9.2. During the competition, competitors may not have with them any papers or literature other than the placing cards and the questionnaire provided.
- 9.3. 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.
- 9.4. 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.
- 9.5. Mobile phones are not to be used once the competition has started – if found to be using them this will be an automatic disqualification.
- 9.6. 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 logos are permitted on either the front or the back of the coats.