

Bye-Laws and Regulations

Data Protection

Privacy Policy

The Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association privacy policy sets out the basis on which any personal data we collect from you, that you provide to us or that we may receive from others about you will be processed by us. It includes data that we hold electronically and in paper files.

Names, towns and counties and details of entries will be published in the catalogue of entries and passed to our printers, solely for the purpose of compiling the catalogue. Results information will be published (in printed form and online) and provided to the press and breed societies for publication. Information relating to exhibitors and their animals may be provided to Department of Environment, Fisheries and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Trading Standards, Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), British Cattle Movement Service (BCMS), Premium Sheep and Goat Health Scheme (PSGHS), breed societies, county councils, veterinary advisors and others who have regulatory access.

Please see our website royalcornwall.co.uk for full details of our privacy policy.

Entries

Ownership

Every exhibit must be the property of the exhibitor both at the time of entry (20 April for horses, sheep & pigs), (15 May for Cattle), (29 May for showjumping) and on the first day of the exhibition.

Entry Forms and Entry Fees

Every exhibitor or competitor is requested to examine carefully the prize schedule and all regulations and laws printed within.

No stock, produce or other competing entry will be admitted for exhibition unless the necessary entry form, properly filled in, complying in every respect with the regulations of the prize schedule, signed by the exhibitor or their authorised agent and accompanied by the necessary fees, shall have been delivered to the Livestock & Equine Team at the Showground Office, on or before the date appointed for the closing of the entries.

Every exhibitor or competitor will be held responsible for the correctness of their entry. If, when asked to prove its correctness, they fail to do so, the entry in question will not be accepted. If already accepted, the entry may be cancelled or the exhibit may be disqualified and any prize made to it removed and furthermore all awards made to such an exhibitor or competitor in any class may be voided.

The same exhibit may be entered in more than one class, when eligible, on payment of a separate entry fee for each class at the time of entry and only exhibits actually exhibited in their class are eligible for any special prizes, if relevant.

Maximum Number of Entries per Class

Horse, Cattle and Pigs = maximum of **three** entries in any one class

Sheep = maximum of **two** entries in any one class

Exhibitor showing numbers will be forwarded by the Livestock & Equine Team to every horse exhibitor. Cattle, sheep and pig showing numbers should be collected from the relevant stewards office as directed.

All persons entering, competing or exhibiting an animal of a class covered by a breed society either to which the Association is affiliated or which is affiliated to the Association, must comply with all their rules and regulations (including disciplinary procedures) applicable to any event, competition or display promoted or arranged by the Association.

The Association would deem the breed societies to be responsible for the enforcement of their own breed society rules.

The Association reserves the right to publish all names, towns and counties of all exhibitors in the official catalogue and share such information with breed societies and other similar bodies in connection with the staging of the equine and livestock sections.

The Association accepts no responsibility if for any reason, any event or events, for which exhibitors qualify at the Royal Cornwall Show, are not staged.

Only fully paid members of the Association are allowed to exhibit at the members rate.

Entry fees shall not be returnable except in the following cases:

(a) they will be refunded in the event of cancellation of classes or a DEFRA Order prohibiting the exhibition of animals at the Royal Cornwall Show. Membership of the Association is not refundable.
(b) in the case of an animal incapacitated by accident, injury or illness. Any claim under this clause must be made in writing to the Secretary and must be accompanied by a certificate issued by a vet and to be received not later than **27 May 2026** together with all passes issued in respect of the entry/ies in question. Any claim received after **27 May 2026** will be invalid.

The entry fee is not returnable to an exhibitor who enters an animal in a class for which it is ineligible or not registered.

Closing of Entries

The last day on which entries can be accepted is **20 April**, except for the Showjumping entries for which may be made up to and including **29 May**.

All stabling for both the Inter-Hunt Relay teams and the showjumpers must be booked by **Sunday 3 May**.

Any Other Breed Sections

Within the 'Any Other Breed' sections, if the following numbers are received for any one breed and from at least 3 different exhibitors, breed classes will be formed and a specialist judge appointed for the current show. If the required numbers are then forward at the show, breed classes will automatically be staged for the following year, if the required entries are not forward, the breed will revert back to the Any Other Breed section for the following year.

Cattle: 12 or more entries received, with 10 or more forward at the show

Sheep: 26 or more entries received, with 20 or more forward at the show

Within the breed sections, if less than 10 entries for cattle and less than 20 entries for sheep are forward, the Association is likely to discontinue the classes for the following year and entries would only then be eligible for the 'Any Other Breed' section.

Fodder

The Association will provide pens/stalling and straw for all livestock exhibits. The provision of feeding stuffs, drinking utensils etc., will be the responsibility of the exhibitor.

Straw will be made available throughout the week and, if possible, green food will be served out in suitable quantities to the exhibitors/assistants of animals free of expense however, exhibitors are advised to bring as much green fodder as possible.

Exhibitor Accommodation

Exhibitors bringing their caravan/tent to the show must place it in the Livestock Caravan Park provided, at a fee of **£60.00** for the week (Saturday to Saturday). Applications for passes should be made to the Livestock & Equine Team. **No caravans, tents or motor homes may be parked/erected within the showground or lorry parking areas and if found in these areas are subject to instant removal.**

Horse exhibitors bringing their caravan/tent will be in the Livestock Caravan Park only, at the above stated fee.

A maximum of one livestock exhibitor cubicle can be booked per exhibitor unless after the closing date of entries spares exist. Cubicles are limited and only available on a first come, first served basis.

Arrival & Departure Arrangements

The Showground will be open for the reception of **cattle, sheep and pigs** at the following times; **Tuesday, 2 June**, from 10am until 9pm (other than British Native & Traditional Rare Breed Sheep who may only arrive on Wednesday 3 June, unless prior permission is given by the Secretary).

Wednesday, 3 June, from 8am until 7pm

Any vehicle whose wheels have been contaminated by driving within the unloading area of any livestock area must have the wheels, wheel arches and mudguards of the whole vehicle (including towing vehicle) cleaned and disinfected before the vehicle leaves the show. An area with disinfectant is provided at the end of the cattle wash.

The above deadlines must be adhered to by all livestock exhibitors. If this is not the case exhibitors run the risk of not being permitted to exhibit.

Livestock are NOT permitted to arrive on the first morning of the show.

The horse lorry parking area will be open for the reception of **horses/ponies** from 8am on **Wednesday 3 June**.

All horse exhibitors, except those who have been provided with an inside parking pass are to arrive through the outer horse lorry entrance in the field adjacent to the Showground, from there you will be parked accordingly.

All cattle, sheep and pigs are to remain on the Showground until after the Grand Parade in the afternoon of the last day of the show and shall under no circumstances be taken out of their places in the interval without the special permission of the Director of Showyard or Secretary.

Exhibitors and their Assistants

- No exhibitor or their assistants must in any way inappropriately interfere with exhibits other than their own.
- During the time the show is open to the public no rug or cloth shall be hung so as to conceal any animal except with the special permission of the steward of the department.
- Exhibitors/assistants must be in attendance each day during the show at least a quarter of an hour before the time appointed for exhibiting the animals under their charge in the show rings.

- Exhibitors/assistants in charge of animals must ensure that stables, stalls and pens are kept clean.
- No cooking stove or barbecue of any description may be lighted in the stalling within and adjacent to the Cattle Halls.
- The Cattle Halls and Sheep Marquee are **NO SMOKING** areas, anyone found in breach of this rule will be reported to the relevant stewarding team who will investigate the matter further together with the R.C.A.A. Council.
- With respect to all exhibitors and their animals the playing of music in the Cattle Halls, Sheep Marquee, Pig lines and all Horse areas is not to be excessively loud and all music must be turned off by 10.30pm.
- Owners of the animals exhibited will be held responsible for the behaviour of their assistants and for the consequences of any misconduct of such assistants.
- Well behaved dogs are allowed but must be kept on a non-retractable lead at all times.

All exhibitors and their assistants shall be subject to the Orders and Rules of the Council or Officials appointed by the Council.

The Council reserves the right to ban from exhibiting, either in person or through a nominee or agent, any exhibitor (or their assistants), who, in the opinion of the Council have breached or infringed any of the Association's Bye-Laws and/or Regulations.

Any exhibitor (or their assistants) who behaves noisily or offensively to the judges or officials is liable to be disqualified, and any award cancelled and, furthermore all awards made to such an exhibitor or competitor in any class may be removed, the exhibitor could be subject to being excluded from exhibiting within this Association.

The above will be dealt with as detailed under the Protest section.

The Council reserves the right to inform other Agricultural Associations, breed or other societies of any decision it may come to with respect to any exhibitor.

Judging, Stewarding & Parading

All persons in charge of exhibits will be subject to the orders of the stewards and will be required to parade or exhibit the animals in their charge at such times as may be directed by the stewards. Stewards have the right to exclude from the judging rings and/or the Showground any animal which is vicious or unruly.

Exhibitors/assistants appearing with animals in judging rings must be of smart appearance and dressed appropriately for the section being judged. It is the exhibitors responsibility to ensure that the correct number is worn in the relevant class and the Association accepts no responsibility for errors caused by incorrect numbers being displayed.

All exhibitors must have the ability, relevant experience and be competent to handle the animal they are in charge of at all times. Handlers must be properly trained in safe work methods. Judges/stewards are empowered to ask an exhibitor to leave a ring or any other area on the grounds of safety if they feel that the exhibitor is incapable of safely handling/riding the exhibit in question.

All stock handlers, and especially children, should only handle animals where they have the necessary experience and strength to cope with that animal.

NO CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 7 YEARS IS ALLOWED INTO THE CATTLE JUDGING RINGS.

For the Grand Parade a child must be 10 years and over to lead a calf up to 3 months and be accompanied by an adult. For all other cattle, handlers must be 16 years and over. A sheep handler must be capable of handling the animal, at the stewards discretion.

It is strongly recommended that children other than those stipulated above do not enter the main ring or livestock walk at the time of the parades.

Awards and Prizes

Inter-Breed Awards for Cattle Championships and Special Prizes will only be judged from the breed winners (2nd prize winners will not be eligible).

Only the signed awards of the judges are accepted by the Association as evidence that a prize has been awarded and the production of a prize card or rosette by an exhibitor will not entitle them to the prize.

Cups and Trophies

All cups and trophies must be signed for prior to their collection from the relevant section steward box, these cups and trophies will be handed over with an insurance letter stipulating the value, please ensure that your house insurance adequately covers the cup/trophy whilst in your possession. A trophy that can be won outright i.e. after being won 3 times in succession or any 4 times etc., can only be won if the exhibitors name or combination of names on the entry form is the same for each relevant year of entry.

Adjudication of Prizes

In awarding the prizes to **cattle, sheep and pigs**, the judges are particularly instructed not to take into consideration the present value to the **butcher** of the animal exhibited, but to decide according to their relative merit for the purpose of **breeding** (this does not apply to any Commercial sections). They are also instructed to take into consideration the relative age of the different animals in each class.

The judge may withhold any prize where there is not sufficient merit.

Where there is only one exhibit shown in a class the judge may award the first, second or third prize according to the merit of the exhibit.

No exhibitor or other person, except the stewards will be allowed to go near the judges while making the awards.

Payment of Prizes

All prize money will be paid via bacs transfer in the weeks proceeding the show, bank account details should be correctly provided on entry forms to ensure safe receipt of any prize winnings.

Objections

Protests

All objections must be lodged, in writing, with the Secretary not later than 5pm of the day on which the award affected has been made. If, however the protest applies to fraudulent entry or description, it will be accepted if made within seven days of the closing day of the show. The objector must state the specific grounds on which the objection is made and at the same time deposit a sum of £30 with the Secretary, this deposit will be refunded if the objection is sustained. Protests involving measurement certificates must be dealt with in accordance with the rules of Joint Measurements Scheme and the requisite deposit lodged at the same time.

All objections will be considered by a Council, normally chaired by the Director of Showyard, and consisting of not less than three other members of Council, one of whom should, if possible, be a steward of the section affected.

The decision of the Council who determine the objection shall be final and no appeal can be made.

If the objection be determined against the objector they may also be liable to the Association for the amount of costs and expenses incurred.

Health & Safety

Electrical safety

The correct maintenance and safe use of any electrical equipment brought to the show is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor, both for their own safety and of any third party. It is highly recommended that electrical equipment is regularly PAT tested.

Insurance

All exhibitors must ensure they have adequate Public Liability Insurance cover, this is third party accidental cover, to be detailed on entry forms.

The organisers of this show have taken reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone present. For these measures to be effective, everyone must take all reasonable precautions to avoid and prevent accidents occurring and must obey the instructions of the organisers and all the officials and stewards.

Risk and Responsibility

The entire risk and responsibility with regards to all exhibits both whilst at the show and during transit and all consequential or other injury or loss arising lies solely with the exhibitor.

Compensation

The Association will not be in any way liable or responsible to any exhibitor, purchaser, assistant, attendant or visitor for any claim, loss, injury or compensation occasioned by or arising out of the holding of their shows, or by reason of the act or default of any exhibitor, purchaser, visitor, assistant, or other person in attendance or present thereat.

The Association will not be liable or responsible to any such person listed above if for any reason the show in any particular year or years is abandoned or the period of its advertised duration curtailed.

Accidents

The Association will not be responsible for any accident that may occur from any machinery or other article belonging to any exhibitor and it is a condition of entry that each exhibitor shall hold the Association harmless and indemnified against any legal proceedings arising from any accident caused by their machinery or other exhibit or arising in any way from or out of the exhibition of their property.

Disclaimer of Liability

In this clause the term exhibitor shall include persons taking part in any competition or display arranged by the Association, and the owner of any animal, plant, machinery or other thing involved in any such competition or display or otherwise exhibited on the Showground. Save for death or personal injury caused by the negligence of the Association, its staff or agents, the Association will not be responsible for death, injury, disease, damage or loss caused to any exhibitor or their assistant or agent or to any animal, article, plant, machinery or thing of whatever nature brought onto the Showground by the said exhibitor from whatever cause death, injury, disease, damage or loss arises. (Save as aforesaid) the exhibitor shall indemnify the Association against all claims, damages and expenses whatsoever in any way arising out of the presence of the exhibitor, their assistants, agents, exhibits, vehicles or equipment on the Showground and shall assume full responsibility therefore. Acceptance of the foregoing provisions shall be a condition of entry.

Exhibitors are advised to insure against fire and other appropriate risk not only as regards to their own property but also against any third party claim.

Conditions of Admittance and Car Parking

Persons are admitted to the car parks and Showground at their own risk and whilst every endeavour is taken to ensure their safety, the Association will not (save for death or personal injury caused by the negligence of the Association, its staff or agents) be responsible for personal injury (whether fatal or otherwise) loss of or damage to property and any other loss, damage, costs and expenses howsoever caused. Vehicles and their accessories and contents are admitted to and left in the show car parks at the owner's risk.

Veterinary Regulations & Treatment

Animal Welfare

The Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association supports the Five Freedoms which are outlined in our Animal Welfare Plan available on our website and by contacting the Show Office.

The administration of any pharmaceutical substance is prohibited by any Exhibitor and can only be carried out by one of the Association's Vets.

It is a condition of entry that the Association's Vets may, on their own authority, give such emergency treatment as they may consider appropriate in the event that the owner or their representative cannot be found. Exhibitors will be liable to pay for all drugs/treatment used by the Association's Vets in the treatment of their animals.

Animals with infectious diseases and lesions: To avoid any disappointment and reduce the risk of animals being sent home all exhibitors are asked to adhere to the following:

- Please check all animals carefully prior to arriving at the show for any signs of disease. If concerned seek veterinary advice prior to the show.
- If animals have visible lesions or clinical signs of an infectious disease on arrival exhibitors will not be allowed to unload animals onto the showground or may be asked to remove the affected animal to protect the other animals at the show.
- If the animal has had an infection or other clinical concern that is now resolved but has left a visible lesion, exhibitor's should get them checked and signed off by a vet prior to the show and have any relevant testing to confirm they are no longer infectious.
- If an exhibitor has any doubt reference the above and whether an animal can attend the show due to a visible lesion or history of recent infection, they should contact the Showground Main Office as soon as possible where they can be passed to the Show Vet Team for advice. It can then be confirmed if an exhibitor should attend with the animal, get any pre-show testing done to confirm if they are free from disease/infection or advise the exhibitor that they should not bring that animal to the show.

Tampering and Malpractice

Any artificial contrivance or device of any description found on or proved to have been used on an animal at any time whilst that animal is in the showground, either for preventing the flow of milk or for any other improper purpose, will disqualify that animal from being awarded a prize, and any prize awarded prior to discovery will be forfeited. The instigator or the owner of the said animal may be prohibited from again entering stock for any of the Association's shows, for such period as the Association may see fit. For the purpose of this regulation, the term 'improper practice' shall be held to include setting of teats, and generally any other practice including tampering of their own or any other animal by the exhibitor or any other person which results in the animals being shown other than in a natural state, and the Association reserves the right to have all animals inspected by the Association's Vets, either prior to, during, or after judging.

The overstocking of udders is to be strongly discouraged and exhibitors are liable to inspection by the Association's Vets.

The Association will not tolerate the administration to show exhibits (entered either for competition or sale/demonstration) of tranquillisers or other drugs which may in any way affect the performance

of the animal in question to have the effect of making it behave in the show ring in a manner which is not natural. The Association reserves the right to take any necessary samples. Any person or exhibitor (or their representative) who is found to have administered or permitted the administration of any such tranquilliser or drugs to any show exhibit will be reported to the Association, and dealt with at their discretion. In addition the matter will be referred to the appropriate breed society or organisation.

The following practices and/or procedures are prohibited when showing any animal, with many of the following relating specifically to dairy cattle:

- Filling an animal's rumen unnaturally with liquid (tubing).
- Balancing the udder by any means other than by leaving naturally produced milk in any or all quarters.
- Treating the udder internally with an irritant, counter-irritant, or any other substance to temporarily improve conformation or produce unnatural animation.
- Treating the udder externally with an irritant, counter-irritant, or any other substance to temporarily improve conformation or produce unnatural animation. (Allowable practices / substances include the use of external anti-inflammatory substances for the well-being of the animal).
- Causing any unlicensed substance to be entered inside the teat orifice.
- The setting or sealing of teats with any substance.
- Roping udders and the use of objects to physically improve definition of the suspensory central ligament.
- Administering epidural anaesthesia (blocking tails) and/or applying any irritant either externally or internally to the perineal (rectum and vagina) area.
- Inserting foreign material/articles under the skin, into the topline (including hair not attached to its own hair follicle) or on the feet (administration of prescribed medications, and false switches and tails is permitted).
- Performing surgery of any kind to change the natural contour of appearance of the animal's body, hide or hair. (the removal of warts, teats and horns, clipping and dressing of hair and trimming of hooves is allowed).
- Wrapping hocks or draining fluid from hocks unless authorised by a vet at the show.
- Attaching an appliance to an animal other than for milking.
- Criticising or interfering with any or all of the individuals involved in the organisation and judging of the show (including the judge, show management or other exhibitors) or any other conduct detrimental to the breed or show.
- The wearing of shackles.
- Any other practices which in the reasonable opinion of the Association causes unnecessary suffering to an animal, unfairly improves its performance in a show, or otherwise undermines or interferes with the integrity of the show, or brings the show or the Association into disrepute.

Please note: Scanning of the mammary system for all prize winning dairy cattle competing in the Inter-Breed Championships, will take place immediately after the completion of each Inter-Breed judging class. Such exhibitors will be directed by Association stewards to the relevant area for this to be carried out by the Association's Vet Team.

If any exhibitor observes any concerning activity as outlined above, please contact the Vet Team immediately to report your observations, so that the Association Vet Team can investigate the activity in question at the time it is taking place.

Any exhibitor wishing to lodge an objection, having reference to livestock exhibited at this show, must make the same in accordance with the objection requirements of the Association. If, on investigation, the objection is not sustained to the satisfaction of the Association, the sum thus deposited shall, at the discretion of the Association, be forfeited to the funds of the Association. All

objections must be lodged on the same day as the alleged incident occurred in accordance with the objection regulations, and no objection will be SUBSEQUENTLY received, unless a reason, satisfactory to the Association be assigned for the delay.

Placards or Advertising Material

Herd / Flock Advertising

Exhibitors are permitted to erect signs advertising their herd or flock. For the cattle these must not exceed the height of the headboard rail and also not interfere with the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association headboards. In the case of flock signs no sign may be erected to stand higher than 61 cm (2') above the pen hurdle height. Separate regulations apply for breed society promotion pens within the sheep section.

The Association reserves the right to remove any sign, should it be deemed to be inappropriate.

No person shall be allowed to fix any card or placard on or within Showground property without the written permission of the Secretary.

Penalties

Penalties

As the non-exhibition of animals entered for the show causes unnecessary preparation and expense and disarranges the showground, any person entering stock and failing to exhibit shall pay a penalty of £5.00 for each entry unless a certificate under the hand of the exhibitor or their authorised agent be lodged with the Secretary of the Association before the day of the exhibition certifying that non-exhibition is caused by:

- (1) the death of the animal or animals
- (2) contagious or infectious diseases (confirmed by the explanatory certificate of a Vet) or
- (3) it's becoming ineligible for the class in which it has been entered.

Every exhibitor shall indemnify the Association against all actions, claims, proceedings and demands by any person, company or other representative body of whatsoever nature in respect of any matter, directly or indirectly connected with the bringing onto the Association's showground of any animal which may have been suffering from any contagious or infectious disease or which develops such a disease whilst on the showground and in addition the exhibitor shall pay all costs and expenses incurred by the Association in connection with any such claim. The Association's Vets are authorised to refuse permission for any animal to be admitted to, or to have removed from, the showground any animals affected with contagious or infectious disease or with disease which, in their opinion, was likely to prove dangerous to other animals. The owner or assistant in charge of such animal may obtain, if desired, a certificate in writing from the Association's Vets, stating the nature of such disease or infection. Concealment of disease will render the exhibitor liable to disqualification.

The stewards, on the recommendation of the Association's Vets shall have the power to remove from the showground any unruly, vicious, deformed or diseased animals, and also the stock, implements or miscellaneous articles belonging to any exhibitor who refuses to comply with the instructions given to them by the stewards without any responsibility attaching to them or to the Association in consequence of such removal.

Interpretation of Regulations

The Association reserves the sole and absolute right to interpret these or any other regulations, conditions or Prize Schedule, and arbitrarily to settle and determine all or any matters, questions or differences, in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of or connected with or incidental to the show. Also to refuse and to cancel any entries, disqualify exhibitors, prohibit exhibition of entries, vary or cancel of awards of prizes, and relax conditions, as the show may deem expedient.

To substitute judges for those announced in the prize schedule, or make additional appointments as may be deemed necessary.

All exhibitors and other persons admitted to the showground shall be subject to the rules, orders, conditions and regulations of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association.