



**ROYAL  
HIGHLAND &  
AGRICULTURAL  
SOCIETY OF  
SCOTLAND**



**ROYAL  
HIGHLAND  
SHOW 2024**  
20 - 23 JUNE  
PARTNER SINCE 1981  
 **Royal Bank  
of Scotland**

# 2024 Technical Innovations Award

Royal Highland Show 20–23 June 2024

**Entries accepted until Friday 29th March 2024**

**Entry Cost: £100+VAT**

**Convenor of Judges:**

**Andrew Rennie, Aberdeenshire**

**List of Judges:**

Christo Sheperd, Aberdeenshire

William Downie, Moray

Robert Livesey, Borders

Gordon Gray, Borders

Philip Benzies, Aberdeenshire

Martin MacDonald, Highlands

Hugh McClymont, Dumfries and Galloway

Brian Sangster

John Mackie

Ross Robertson

**For all enquiries please contact:**

[competitions@rhass.org.uk](mailto:competitions@rhass.org.uk)

[www.royalhighlandshow.org](http://www.royalhighlandshow.org)



# CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

## 1. The RHASS Technical Innovation Award:

The Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland (RHASS) has a historical reputation for recognising and rewarding excellence. As agriculture and rural industry has evolved, RHASS has responded with appropriate changes to its awards.

Technical Innovation is pivotal to the future of one of Scotland's key industries, whether in suitable development, improving the environment, promoting best practice or ensuring operator safety and comfort.

RHASS is proud to support the Technical Innovation Awards and understand it is an important and influential accolade for manufacturers, distributors, providers and inventors – a distinctive and prestigious means to promote new ideas, whether conceived in the farm workshop or on the test benches of multi-national manufacturers.



## 2. Objectives

To encourage and recognise innovation in the design and manufacture of machines, equipment and appliances which advances the effective and efficient practice of agriculture, horticulture, equestrian, forestry, renewable energy and estate service.

## 3. Eligibility

Entries for the Royal Highland Technical Innovation Awards can be machine, appliances, technical components, important ancillary equipment, Data Platforms or Apps. The equipment should have positive benefit to agriculture and/or agricultural business, horticulture, equestrian, forestry or estate services.

Entries should be commercially available, or be prototypes in development.



## 4. Entry Documents and Fees

Entries should be made via the online entry system found on the Royal Highland Show website. At time of entry an electronic copy of a description of the principal features of the design, construction and operation of the equipment must be given. You are also welcome, at time of entry, to provide a further description of the Principal features of the design, construction and performance of the items over and above 150 word description, which will be purely for the judge's reference. In addition, you may submit copies of any supporting promotional material/literature you have produced in respect of the item entered.

The details submitted should make clear the exact nature of any innovations as well as the work that it is intended to perform and claimed improvements in performance.

**A non-returnable fee of £100.00 must accompany each entry. VAT at the prevailing rate, at date of application should be added to the above rates.**

## 5. Acceptance of Entry

Entries will be accepted at the discretion of the judges. Their decision will be reported by email to the entrant who, for the purposes of these regulations, will hereinafter be termed "the Exhibitor". Entries may be submitted by the inventor, designer, manufacturer or one of their agents. If between the date an entry form is completed and the date of the announcement of the judges' decision the manufacturer and/or exhibitor ceases or transfers his interest in the entry, or there is any material alteration to the specification provided to RHASS, the exhibitor shall immediately inform the Competitions team, (which administers the Award on behalf of RHASS) of relevant information. In such cases RHASS reserves the sole right to approve the continuance of the entry, or otherwise.

## 6. Observance of Statutory Regulations

RHASS holds the exhibitor wholly responsible for the observance of statutory regulations and obligations governing the safety of the entry.

Equipment is accepted for adjudication on the understanding that it complies with current Agricultural, Health and Safety Requirements and Road Safety Legislation where applicable The CE mark must be on display at all times





## 7. Time of Entry

To enable the judges to assess the different types of equipment during their proper working seasons, applicants are required to submit their entry in sufficient time to permit the Judges to see such equipment at work in practical seasonal conditions in advance of the times of year at which decisions are taken.

The closing date is **FRIDAY 29th March 2024**.

## 8. Judges

The board of Directors of the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society shall appoint suitable Judges with sufficient experience of the equipment/industries being judged. The Judge's decision shall be final.

## 9. Inspection of Entries

The judges shall decide which entries they require to be presented for preliminary inspection and shall determine the date and place at which the exhibitor or his representative will be invited to be in attendance. Some items that can be trialled will be required to be brought to Ingliston to be judged.

Exhibitors must submit a 150 word description and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least three users of the equipment who would be willing to co-operate with the judges and the exhibitor in the inspection and demonstration of the entry, preferably within Scotland, must be given on the entry form.

**Please provide any other form of electronic promotional material can be submitted including promotional or demonstration videos, leaflets etc to support an entry.**

## 10. Practical Trials

The Society does not bind itself to try every item entered in the field but in general a practical trial will be required before an award is made. The judges shall determine those cases in which one or more practical trials are necessary.

If the exhibitor does not present the preliminary information or submit the equipment for practical trials on the dates required, the judges may recommend to the Society that the entry be disqualified and the entry fee forfeited.

## 11. Insufficient Trials Further Assessment

On the recommendation of the judges, any entry which cannot be sufficiently tried or which is capable of further development may be re-assessed at a later date. Should any additional assessments be required the Exhibitor will be charged a nominal fee, at the discretion of the committee, to cover any costs incurred.

## 12. Awards

Awards will be made only where the judges consider the entry to be of sufficient merit. Awards may be made as follows:

**Certificate of Commendation** for which the inventor and the exhibitor (if not also the inventor) will each receive a certificate\*.

**Silver Award** for which the inventor and exhibitor (if not also the inventor) will each receive a Silver Award. A Silver Award Winner may apply for a Gold Award after 3 years.

A **Gold Award** will only be presented to a previous Silver Award winner that is of outstanding merit and has shown significant success, influence and effect in the marketplace. A Gold Award entry will not entail any further fee.

\*A certificate of Commendation award winner may re-apply for a Silver Award after 1 year and if further developments have been made to the original entry.

The exhibitor of a Technical Innovation to which an award is made will receive a supply of self-adhesive stickers that identify the status of the award and the year in which the award was made. These stickers must be affixed only to production models of the award winning equipment.

## 13. Publicity

All publication of Royal Highland Technical Innovation Awards must state the year of the award and must specify the exact nature of the improvement, or of the attachment to an implement, for which the award has been made.

## 14. Presentation of Awards

Each exhibitor who has gained an award will receive notice of the presentation ceremony. A representative of the exhibitor will be invited to attend the ceremony that will take place during the 2024 Royal Highland Show.

## 15. Display of Winning Entries

In 2024, all entries must be displayed on the exhibitor's stand if he/she is exhibiting at the Royal Highland Show or on the stand of a nominated exhibitor at the Royal Highland Show immediately following the judging. The Technical Innovation Award Entry Card or Award Card provided by RHASS must be displayed on each machine.

Winning entrants are expected to display their award winning product(s) within a central display area at the Royal Highland Show 2024.

## 16. Dispute of Entry

If a notice in writing, that an entry is considered to be an infringement of the right of another person, shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Society prior to the announcement of the judges' decision on that entry, the Technical Innovation may still be considered by the judges.

If the Technical Innovation is found to be of sufficient merit an award may be made, subject to it being withheld by RHASS pending the outcome of the dispute between the parties.

If litigation does not proceed within six months or such other reasonable period, as RHASS shall determine from the date of receipt of the notice, or if the action is withdrawn at any time, the award shall then be absolute.

If litigation does proceed, the award will be held pending the outcome of the court action which RHASS will take into account in determining its final decision.

