



SHEEP SHEARING COMPETITIONS



Sheep Shearing Competitions 2026 SCHEDULE

Online entries close on Tuesday 12th May

For all enquiries please contact:
Telephone: +44(0)131 335 6164
Email: competitions@rhass.org.uk
www.royalhighlandshow.org

Competitions to be held
under British Isles Shearing
Competition Association

The Society acknowledges with thanks,
the sponsorship of equipment and services
by LISTER SHEARING EQUIPMENT LTD.



To be judged as follows:

Day	Competition	Heat Time	Semi Final Time	Final Time
Thursday 18th June	Junior	9:00am	10:45am	11:30am
	Young Farmers	10:00am		
	Intermediate	1:00pm	2:30pm	3:30pm
	Blade	1:40pm		3:00pm
Friday 19th June	Open Wool Handling	8:00am	10:30am	11:15am
	Novice Wool Handling	9:20am		11:00am
	Wool Handling Development Test	12noon		
	Senior	1:00pm	3:15pm	3:45pm
	Wool Handling Prizegiving	2:40pm		
	Senior Development Test	4:15pm		
Saturday 20th June	Shearing Prizegiving	4:45pm		
	Scottish National	8:00am	10:00am	11:00am
	Open	11:30am	2:00pm	3:00pm
	Open Development Test	2:30pm		
	Circuit Raffle Draw			
	Final Prizegiving	4:15pm		

* Please note: If insufficient entries are received for Novice Wool Handling we will only hold an open competition.

Chief

Chief Steward: Mr J Owen
Deputy Chief Steward: Mr G Gray, Mr R Newlands

Judges

Referee: Mr A Rankin
Judges: Judges: TBC

Fees and Prizes

	Entry fees (VAT exempt)	Prizes					
Junior	£16.00	£150	£98	£53	£38	£23	£15
Wool Handling	£21.00	£100	£60	£45	£32	£30	£28
Novice Wool Handling	£16.00	£30	£25	£23			
Intermediate	£21.00	£225	£150	£100	£62	£42	£28
Senior	£26.00	£300	£200	£125	£90	£60	£33
Blade Shearing	£26.00	£100	£65	£42	£37	£35	£33
National Machine Competition	£26.00	£350	£200	£130	£100	£75	£35
Open Competition	£31.00	£400	£260	£200	£150	£120	£70

All Entry Fees include a £2 levy to go to the Scottish Shearing Circuit Funds.



ENTRIES WILL BE IN ADVANCE VIA THE ONLINE PORTAL.

Late entries may be taken on the day of competition if sheep numbers allow and entered exhibitors drop out. All decisions on late entries will be at the discretion of the Chief Steward and it will be on a first come, first served basis. An additional late entry fee will be charged.

IMPORTANT

Semi-Finals will only be held where justified by the number of entries.
Entries will only be accepted on official Society entry forms online.
Newsclip entry forms will NOT be accepted.

Classes

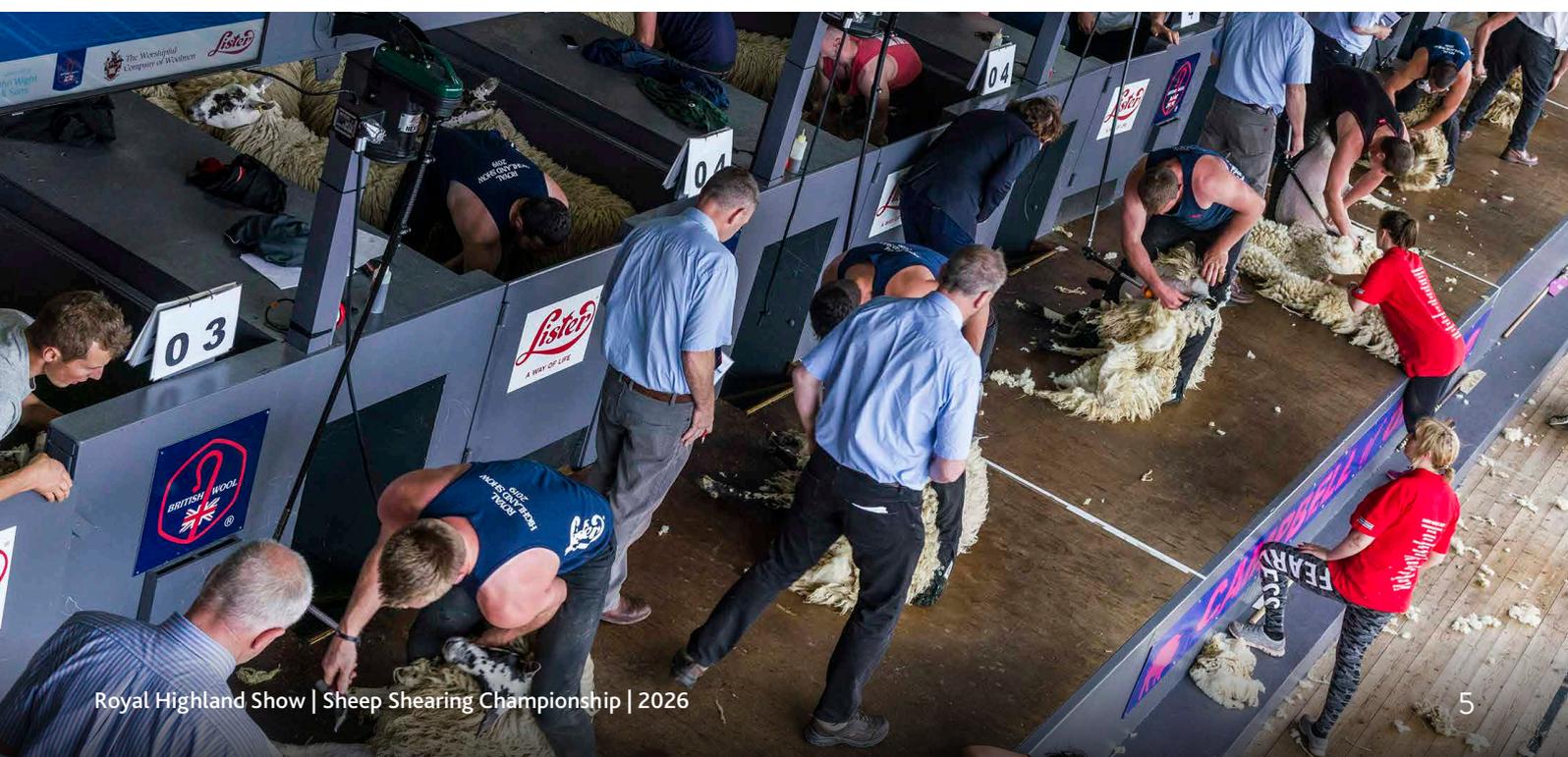
Each class will have a maximum entry limit, with places allocated on a first-come, first-served basis

1. JUNIOR COMPETITION – Sponsored by The Worshipful Company of Woolmen.
Open to junior status shearers only.
2. WOOL HANDLING COMPETITION
3. NOVICE WOOL HANDLING
4. INTERMEDIATE COMPETITION
Open to junior or intermediate status shearers only.
5. SENIOR COMPETITION. Sponsored by The Wight Family
Open to intermediate or senior status shearers only.
6. NATIONAL MACHINE COMPETITION. Sponsored by Harper MacLeod
Open only to competitors of Scottish nationality resident in Scotland
7. BLADE SHEARING COMPETITION
8. OPEN COMPETITION. Sponsored by The Dunlop Family, Elmscleugh
Open to senior or open status shearers only.

Late Entrants

No confirmed entries will be taken after the close of entries on 12th May.
All entries must be made online via www.royalhighlandshow.org.uk

Late entries may be taken on the day of competition if sheep numbers allow and entered exhibitors drop out. All decisions on late entries will be at the discretion of the Chief Steward and it will be on a first come, first served basis. An additional late entry fee will be charged.



Special Prizes

SP1 **The Coopers Perpetual Challenge Cup & The Carmichael Motor Group Perpetual Challenge Trophy**

for best individual shearer in the Intermediate Competition.

SP2 **Barclays' Bank Challenge Cup**

for best individual shearer in the Senior Competition.

SP3 **The MacTaggart Silver Salver**

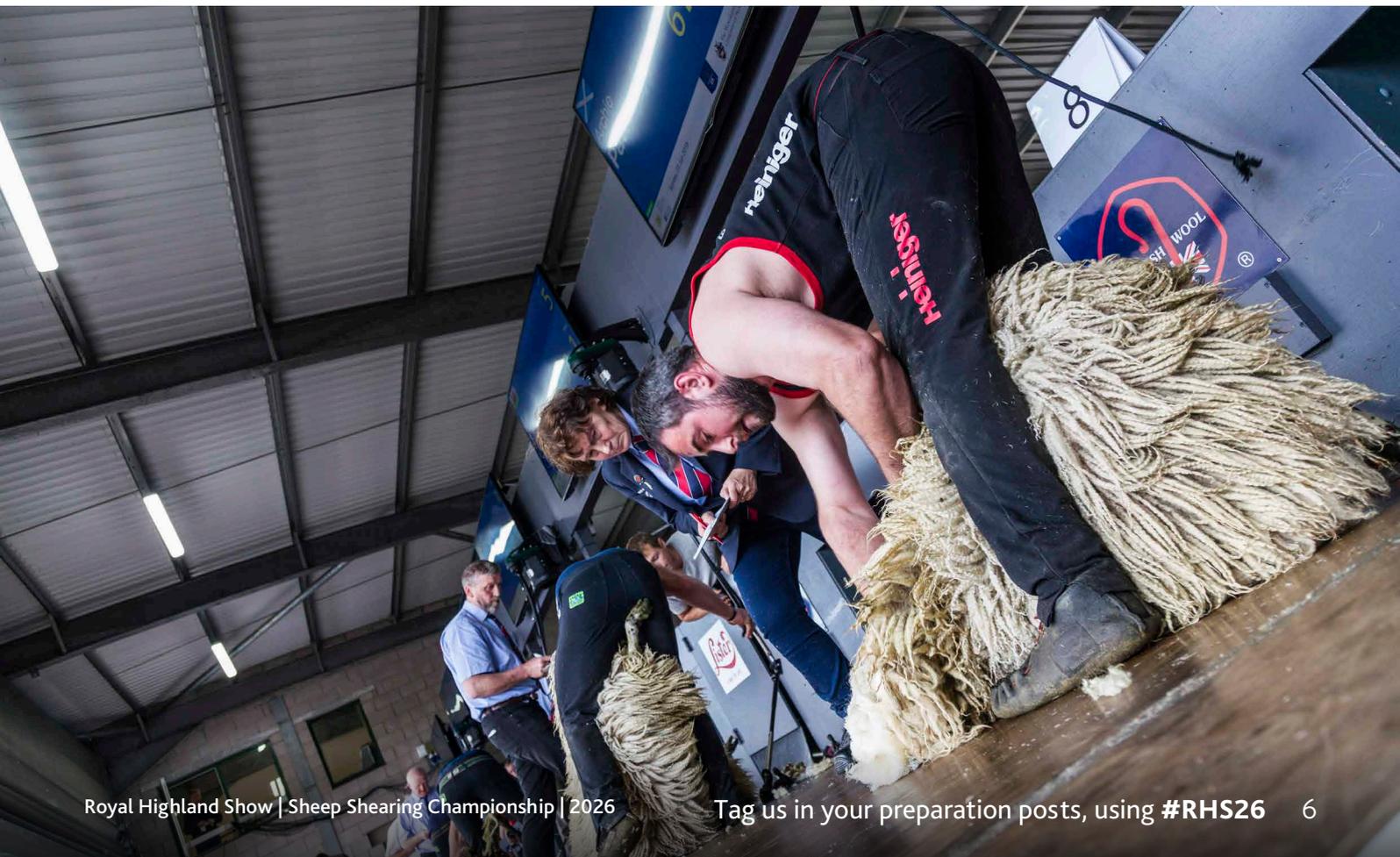
for best individual shearer in the National Machine Competition.
Presented by Mr John MacTaggart, Muirhouses, Duntocher.

SP4 **The Kirkwood Medal**

for winner of the National Machine Competition. A hallmarked sterling silver medal will be presented by Alexander Kirkwood & Son, Medallists and Engravers, 13 Albany Street, Edinburgh. Medals will also be given to the Runner-up and the third placed competitor.

SP5 **The Lawson Silver Salver**

for best individual shearer in the Highland Shears Open Competition.
Presented by Mr W. Lawson, St. Ninian's, Wigtown.



THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF WOOLMEN JUNIOR COMPETITION

**Participating Societies in order of dates of events:
The Royal Ulster, The Royal Bath and West, The Royal Highland,
The Great Yorkshire, The Royal Welsh.**

Eligibility

To be eligible to qualify, competitors must be 26 years of age or under on 1st May 2026, hold a Blue or Bronze seal only (Wool Board Qualification) on 1st May 2026, and be classified as a Junior in the year concerned.

Qualifiers

The two top competitors that meet the above criteria and are from the same nation as the Society itself in their Junior Competition, with the exception of the Great Yorkshire where the two top competitors from any U.K. Nation will qualify. In the event of a duplicate qualifier the next eligible competitor will qualify. Competitors from Southern Ireland are not eligible.

The top ten qualifiers (two from each Society) will take part in the finals at the Royal Welsh which will consist of two semi finals with the top five qualifying for the final.

The sheep in the final will be full woolled, i.e. will have a growth of ten months wool. Three sheep each to be shorn in the semi finals with five each in the final.

Prizes

The first qualifier at each show will receive a cheque for £50 plus a voucher valued at £50 for further shearing training. The second will receive a similar voucher for further training.

In the finals 1st £350, 2nd £250, 3rd £200, 4th £150 and 5th £100. Each of the 5 losing semi finalists to receive £50 each.

Acknowledgements

British Isles Shearer of the Year
Details will be published in Newsclip

Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd National Machine Competition
Sponsorship has been generously donated by
Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd



The Junior Class
has been generously sponsored by
The Worshipful Company of Woolmen

The Senior Class
has been generously sponsored by
The Wight Family

The National Machine Competition
has been generously sponsored by
Harper MacLeod

The Open Competition
has been generously sponsored by
The Dunlop Family, Elmscleugh

Shearing Competition Regulations

1. Disclaimer of Liability

The term Exhibitor shall include persons taking part in any competition, exhibition or display arranged by the Society 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 breach of its duty the Society will not be responsible for death, injury, disease, damage or loss caused to any Exhibitor or to his or her servant or agent or to any animal, article, plant, machinery or thing of whatever nature brought on to the Showground by the said Exhibitor from whatever cause death, injury, disease, damage or loss arises.

Save as aforesaid the Exhibitor shall indemnify the Society against all claims, damages and expenses whatsoever in any way arising out of the presence of the Exhibitor, his servants, agents, exhibits, vehicles or equipment on the Showground and shall assume full responsibility therefor.

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 their own property but also against any third party claims.

2.

Competitors must agree to abide by the Rules of the British Isles Shearing Competition Association, the Rules of the Competition and the Society's Regulations. Competitors participate at their own risk.

3.

The Society reserves the right to restrict the numbers of entries in the event of more being received than can be accommodated

4.

All Competitors must attend at the Shearing Centre one half hour before the competition is due to commence.

5.

Machines will be provided by **Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd**. Competitors will have steel tube droppers.

Only worm drives will be available. Any Competitor wishing to use a worm drive must request this through the Chief Steward who will arrange fitting by the Lister technician.

A re-grinding service will be available. Blades should be cleansed and disinfected **before** re-grinding.

6.

The minimum qualification for entrance to the Junior Shearing Competition will be a Blue Seal.

7.

All Junior and Intermediate Shearers should be encouraged to inspect their shorn sheep immediately after finishing their heat where expert advice can be given on both judges scoring and technical expertise. Where competitors are allowed to shear up a class, only Juniors that have qualified through from the Junior heats should be allowed to shear in Intermediate.

Any conduct that is detrimental to the ethics of BISCA by either competitor or official shall be notified to the Disciplinary Committee: The Chief Steward has the right to suspend, for a period, or remove any misstruant from their respective list.

The decision of the Chief Steward shall be FINAL. Appeals have to be submitted in writing to the referee 15 minutes after the occurrence with a lodgement fee of £20 returnable if upheld.

8.

The Society considers that prize monies and/or deposits attach themselves to the exhibit and hence to the Exhibitor, i.e. the bona fide owner of the exhibit. Claiming prize monies/deposits will be the responsibility of the exhibitor under which the entry is made. The Competitions team will be in contact regarding prize money after the Show and the deadline stated within prize money correspondence will be the final deadline for any prize monies/deposits to be claimed. Failure to claim by the deadline will result in prize monies/deposits being forfeited. Payment will be made through the PayIt system, an email will be sent to all exhibitors with instructions on how to claim prize monies/deposits.

9.

Each class will have a maximum entry limit, with places allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Once the class is full, no further entries will be accepted.

10. Organiser's Liability

Cancellation of the Show, Force Majeure etc.

1. If the Royal Highland Show is cancelled, postponed or curtailed for any reason (including, by reason of an event of Force Majeure, which means any of the following which in each case is beyond the control of the parties: act of God, war, insurrection, riot, civil disturbance, acts of terrorism, fire, explosion, theft, malicious damage, strike, lock-out, third party injunction, outbreak of disease; national defence requirements, acts or regulations of national or local governments; and any other cause beyond the control of the parties) so that there is a restriction in the benefit or value of the exhibitors Rights, RHASS shall notify the exhibitor of the cancellation, postponement or curtailment as soon as possible.
2. The parties agree to discuss options in good faith, including alternative activation, deferral of entry fees to the next Royal Highland Show or, if required, a full refund.
3. Any alternative activation, deferral or refund will be offered on a prorata basis and will take account of any benefits received.