



SCOTTISH HONEY CHAMPIONSHIPS



Scottish Honey Championships 2026 SCHEDULE

Online entries close on Monday 11th May

For all enquiries please contact:

Telephone: +44(0)131 335 6164

Email: competitions@rhass.org.uk

www.royalhighlandshow.org

In association with the Scottish
Beekeepers Association



Honey Marquee very
kindly sponsored by
Morton Fraser MacRoberts LLP



A fundraising event by



ROYAL
HIGHLAND
SHOW 2026
18 - 21 JUNE
PARTNER SINCE 1981



General Information

Entry Fees (VAT exempt)

All Classes
excluding Gift Class

£4.50

Gift Class

Nil

Prize Money

All classes (excluding Gift Class and Local Association Class)



1st
£10.00



2nd
£6.00



3rd
£4.00

Local Association Class



1st
£60.00



2nd
£30.00



3rd
£15.00

Gift Class

Nil

Class 58 may only be entered by Local Beekeeping Associations and not by individuals.

Judges

Lynne Hepplestone
Hazel Blackburn

Shirley Bond
Claire O'Brien

Award Presentation

Awards will be presented in the Honey Marquee, from 13:00 hrs on Sunday 21st June 2026, when the awards listed below will be presented to the winning Competitors. The Stewards will endeavour to inform these principal prize winners as soon as possible using the contact numbers supplied with entries.

Classes

Extracted Honey

1. Two jars of Light
2. Two jars of Medium (excluding Ling Heather)
3. Two jars of Dark (excluding Bell Heather)
4. Two jars of Soft Set Blossom
5. Two jars of Naturally Crystallised Blossom
6. Two jars of Bell Heather
7. Two jars of Ling Heather
8. Two jars of Ling Heather Blend
9. Six Jars. Exhibit may consist of one, two or three different kinds of Honey
10. Six Jars labelled for Sale. Exhibit shall consist of any one kind of Honey. All jars and labels to conform with current statutory requirements for shop sales.

Comb Honey

11. One Frame of Blossom, suitable for extraction (wired foundation to be used)
12. One Frame of Ling Heather for Cut Comb
13. Two containers of Cut Comb – Blossom
14. Two containers of Cut Comb – Ling Heather
15. Two square or round sections - Blossom
16. Two square or round sections - Ling Heather
17. Two jars of Chunk





Beeswax

Exhibits in the Beeswax classes that have been exhibited at previous Royal Highland Shows will not be accepted. Display boxes for the cakes of beeswax and the six blocks of beeswax are not allowed. Bases for the beeswax cakes and polythene bags will be provided at the show. All these exhibits to be staged in the same manner.

18. One Cake of beeswax, weight not less than 454g and 25mm thick. No pattern allowed.
19. One Cake of beeswax, weight not less than 454g and 25mm thick. Pattern allowed.
20. Six blocks, weight approx. 30g each. Matching in all respects.
21. Display of Beeswax, moulded into shapes of any size, minimum of eight pieces. Colour permitted. Display not to exceed 500mm x 500mm (20" x 20")
22. Display of Beeswax, moulded into shapes any size, minimum of eight pieces. No Colour permitted. Display not to exceed 500mm x 500mm (20" x 20")
23. One Model or Sculpture, not moulded (Candles excluded). Colour and wire may be used if required.
24. Two moulded models, matching in all respects. Colour permitted.
25. Three Beeswax Candles, all made by moulding and to be displayed flat. Matching in all respects. One may be lit by the Judge.
26. Three Beeswax Candles, all made by any method other than by moulding and to be displayed flat. Matching in all respects. One may be lit by the Judge
27. Two Rolled Decorated Candles (no flammable decoration) to be displayed flat. (In classes 24 – 26 the candle holders will be supplied by the SBA. Exhibitors own candle holders not to be used. Class and exhibitor number to be attached to each candle).
28. One Sheet of Unwired Foundation produced by the Exhibitor. Size to be B.S. Deep or larger and mounted in a frame.
29. Two matching pieces of Beeswax wrap. Each 30cm square. Made from Beeswax and cotton fabric only. No additional oils/resins permitted. One piece of wrap to contain 1/2 apple (supplied by exhibitor) and displayed on a white paper plate. (In classes 25-27 the candle holders will be supplied by the SBA. Exhibitors own candle holders must not be used. Class and exhibitor number to be attached to each candle).

Mead

30. One Bottle of Dry Mead
31. One Bottle of Sweet Mead

Display

32. A 'For Sale' Display of Honey, extracted and comb, and Beeswax Products. Mead not permitted. Area not to exceed 600mm x 600mm. (2ft x 2ft).
33. A Display of bee friendly flowers to be staged in a suitable vase (Preferably with a wide base for stability in the marquee. A list of the flowers staged to be displayed with the exhibit. Water will be provided to keep them fresh during the show).

Gift

34. One jar of Honey, any kind, to be labelled as for sale.

Craft

Exhibits in the Craft classes that have been exhibited at previous Royal Highland Shows will not be accepted.

35. Needlework/ Artistic/Decorative Exhibit related to Bees &/or Beekeeping. Display area 40cm x 40cm.
36. Skep suitable for Swarm Collection, Outside Diameter 30cm to 40cm, Height 25cm to 35cm, made by the exhibitor in straw or wild grasses and any suitable binding material.

Novice

Open to all Beekeepers who have never competed at The Royal Highland Show and have not won first, second or third at a major show (over 100 entries).

37. One Jar of Liquid Honey
38. One Jar of Set Honey
39. Two identical moulded candles (one will be lit by the judge). To be displayed flat.

Junior

Open to exhibitors aged 18 years of age and under.

40. One Jar of Liquid Honey
41. One Jar of Set Honey
42. Two identical moulded candles (one will be lit by the judge). To be displayed flat.

School Beekeeping Clubs

43. A display of the work being done by the school beekeeping club. Max. size 600mm x 600mm.

Not all school beekeeping clubs will have harvested any produce from their hives. The display can take any form (photographs, models, text, etc) and may include produce should they have any. The name of the school or beekeeping club may be shown as they may wish this to form part of the display.

Photography

Schools Classes 44–46 — (Photograph/s display showing the work done in class during their studies of Honeybees and other Pollinators. Restricted to a maximum of up to 4 x A4 photographs which may be mounted on A2 paper/board. Only one display per class. The photographs/display boards will be exhibited at The Royal Highland Show on special display boards. Script may be used to explain the photographs but this must be contained within the A2 size.)

- 44. Restricted to primaries 1–4
- 45. Restricted to primaries 5–7
- 46. Restricted to classes in a senior school (note this is study work done in the classroom during school hours and not as part of a school beekeeping club as stated in class 40)

Classes 47, 48 and 49

To have a Honeybee/Beekeeping related theme. Maximum size of paper used A4. Unmounted. Open to any person interested in photography

- 47. One Coloured Photograph
- 48. One Black and White Photograph
- 49. One close up or macro photo.

Honey Label

- 50. Honey label to be displayed on an empty 454g (1lb) or 340g (12oz) squat honey jar. Must conform to sales regulations

Baking

All baking must contain honey. Recipe, where shown, must be adhered to otherwise recipe to be displayed with exhibit. Exhibits in classes 51–55 have all to be displayed on clean white round paper plates and enclosed within a clear plastic wrapping. Neither supplied at Royal Highland Show. Exhibitors label to be displayed on plastic wrapper and on plate.

- 51. Honey Fruit Loaf

Ingredients:

- 150g/5oz self raising flour
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- 60g/2oz caster sugar
- 90g/3oz sultanas
- 75g/2½ oz clear honey
- 30g/1oz butter
- 1tbsp milk
- 1 egg

Method:

1. Sieve flour with cinnamon.
2. Add sugar and fruit.
3. Melt butter with honey over low heat and stir into dry ingredients with beaten egg and milk. Mix well.
4. Pour into greased and lined 500g/1lb loaf tin.
5. Bake at 150°C/300°F/Gas Mark 2 for about an hour.

52. Honey Coconut Biscuits

Ingredients:

- 170g/6oz SR flour
- A pinch of salt
- ½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 85g/3oz unsalted butter
- 85g/3oz golden caster sugar
- 3 tbsp clear honey
- 1 tbsp desiccated coconut

Method:

1. Set oven at 200°C/400°F/Gas Mark 6.
2. Sift together, flour, salt, bicarb.
3. Rub in butter until mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs.
4. Stir in sugar followed by honey and coconut.
5. Work the dough together then shape the mixture into even sized ball the size of a walnut.
6. Place well apart on greased baking trays and bake for 7 – 10 minutes.
7. Leave to cool on tray for few minutes before transferring to wire tray to cool completely.

53. Honey Cake

Ingredients:

- 225g SR Flour
- 115g unsalted butter
- 225g honey
- 2 medium eggs
- Pinch of salt

Method:

1. Heat oven to 150°C
2. Cream the butter and honey together. Beat the eggs well add alternatively with sifted flour and salt. Add a little milk if required.
3. Bake in well-buttered 165 – 190mm (6 ½ to 7 ½") deep round tin.

54. Wholemeal Honey Cob

Ingredients:

- 450g wholemeal flour
- 30g lard
- 15g yeast
- 1 teaspoon of salt
- ½ pint of tepid water
- 2 teaspoons of medium or heather honey

Method:

1. Keep all utensils and ingredients warm.
2. Cover dough at all stages.
3. Sieve flour and salt into a mixing bowl and rub in lard.
4. Mix the honey, water and yeast, pour into centre of flour. Mix the dough.
5. Turn onto a work surface and knead for ten minutes.
6. Shape into a round and cover with a bowl for one hour.
7. Knead dough again and shape into six single round balls, placing five around the perimeter of a 165 – 190 mm (6 ½ to 7 ½") greased tin, with the final dough ball in the centre to form a crown shaped cob.
8. Prove for a further 20 – 30 mins.
9. Bake at 220°C for 30 mins.

55. Honey Sweets and/or Chocolate

To be displayed in a clear lidded box. Gross weight 454g (1 lb).

56. Honey Marmalade.
To be exhibited in a clear glass or plastic jar 454g (1 lb).
No label or form of identification, other than the exhibitors label supplied by The Royal Highland Show, to be used. Own recipe to be displayed with the exhibit.

57. Honey Lemon Curd
To be exhibited in a clear glass or plastic jar 454g (1 lb). No label or form of identification, other than the exhibitors label supplied by The Royal Highland Show, to be used. Own recipe to be displayed with the exhibit.

58. Local Associations Display of Honey, Beeswax, Home Produced Products containing Honey and/or Beeswax

(This class is only for Local Beekeeping Associations.
Display area must not exceed 600mm x 600mm (2ft x 2ft).

Display to be a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 different products. All products must be labelled for identification, eg blossom honey, heather honey, Blossom/Heather cut comb. Products made with honey and/or beeswax to be labelled for identification and showing ingredients used (i.e. honey soap and ingredients used to make the soap, honey lip balm and ingredients used to make the lip balm, beeswax polish and ingredients used to make the beeswax polish, etc.)

While all the products have to be labelled with ingredients the label should not indicate who had produced or which association the display belongs to. After judging the name of the local association can be shown. It is important that the displays are anonymous for judging purposes.

These products will be judged.

In addition, attractive materials may be added, for aesthetic effect.

Point System

Points calculated on the following basis:

1st
6 points

2nd
5 points

3rd
4 points

VHC
3 points

HC
2 points

C
1 points

In the event of a tie the exhibitor having most first prizes to be the winner, which failing, commended points will be taken into consideration.

Trophies

The winner shall hold the trophy for one year. The Bronze Medal and Andrew Limond Memorial Silver Medal will be retained by the winner.

Special Prizes

- SP1 Empirex Trophy 1938 Perpetual Silver Challenge Cup**
Presented by The Scottish Beekeepers' Association.
To be competed for annually at The Royal Highland Show, awarded to the exhibitor gaining most points overall.
- SP2 Bronze Medal**
Presented by The Scottish Beekeepers' Association.
For the exhibitor placed reserve in the competition for the Empirex Cup.
- SP3 Andrew Limond Memorial Silver Medal**
Presented by The Scottish Beekeepers' Association.
To be awarded to the Scottish exhibitor gaining most points overall.
- SP4 The E. & M.B.K.A. Napier S.Landale Perpetual Memorial Trophy**
Presented by Mrs. Landale.
To be awarded to the exhibitor gaining most points in Classes 18 – 29 inclusive.
- SP5 Thomas Henry Fairley Perpetual Trophy**
Presented by Mrs. E. Fairley, Edinburgh.
To be awarded to the exhibitor from outwith Scotland gaining most points overall.
- SP6 Scottish Beekeepers' Association Heather Honey Trophy Perpetual Challenge Brass Skep**
Presented by Mrs. J.E. Robertson, Edinburgh.
To be awarded to the exhibitor gaining most points in classes 6 – 8, 12, 14 & 16.
- SP7 Perpetual Challenge Medal**
Presented by The Scottish Beekeepers' Association.
To be awarded to the exhibitor gaining First Prize in the Gift Class.
- SP8 Champion Card and the SBA Ian Craig Perpetual Trophy**
Presented by Mr. Ian Craig, Johnstone.
To be awarded to the exhibitor with the Best Exhibit in the Beeswax Section.

- SP9** **Champion Card and The McAnespie Perpetual Trophy**
Presented by Mr & Mrs Phil McAnespie, Ayr.
To be awarded to the exhibitor gaining most points in the Baking Classes.
- SP10** **Champion Card and The Wright Perpetual Trophy**
Presented by Dr. & Mrs. D. Wright, Edinburgh
To be awarded to the exhibitor with the best exhibit in the Baking Classes.
- SP11** **Champion Card and the Iain Steven Perpetual Trophy**
Presented by Mr. Iain Steven, Perth.
To be awarded to the exhibitor with the best exhibit in the Honey Classes.
- SP12** **Champion Junior/Novice**
Taken from classes 37-42. A grant of £50 towards the purchase of beekeeping equipment for the Champion Junior/Novice, who has never before exhibited at the Royal Highland Show.
- SP13** **School Club Best exhibit in class 43.**
To be awarded to the school club with the best exhibit.
- SP14** **The Michael Badger MBA Trophy**
Presented to the Scottish Beekeepers' Association for the best exhibit in class 10 (6 Jars Labelled for Sale).



Regulations

1. Disclaimer of Liability

The term Competitor 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 (being all ground occupied or used, designated for or available for occupation and use, in connection with the Royal Highland Show). The Society will not (save for death or personal injury caused by breach of its duty) be held responsible for personal injury (whether fatal or otherwise). The Society will not be responsible for paying any compensation to Exhibitors for any loss of or damage to property or any animal, article, plant, machinery or thing of whatever nature brought on to the Showground by the Exhibitor or any other loss, damage, costs and expenses, unless such loss, damage and/or expenses are suffered as a result of the Society's negligence or breach of duty.

The competitor shall be responsible for any and all exhibits, vehicles or equipment brought on to the Showground by the Competitor and shall also be responsible for the actions of any of its employees, agents or servants, The Competitor shall be liable for any loss or damage suffered by the Society (including damage to the Showground) where such loss or damage was caused by an intentional, reckless or negligent act or omission of the Exhibitor. Acceptance of the foregoing provisions shall be a condition of entry.

Competitors 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. Delivery of Exhibits

All exhibits must be delivered to the Showground not later than 11am on Wednesday, 17th June 2026. When dropping off please enter through the west car park and make way to the west gate for drop off. Special labels will be supplied by RHASS and must be addressed to the return journey, and have number(s) of Class(es) on same. Boxes containing hives, jars, or sections must be screwed and not nailed and the hives, bottles and sections so placed that they can be lifted out and replaced without disturbing the packing.

3. Labels

The number of the exhibit will be detailed in a letter sent by RHASS approx. 2 weeks prior to the Royal Highland Show. Labels will be provided which should be completed with the correct exhibit number and must be placed on the corresponding exhibit – viz. Jars – on side of jar about 12mm from the bottom, sections, frames and wax at right top corner of case and also on each section, top bar of frame and on the underside of 454g wax cake, on the short side and on the lid of each cut comb container.

4. Identification

Entries will be disqualified if any card, trade mark or name of the exhibitor is placed upon any part of an exhibit except in classes 10, 32 and 34.

5. Honey and Wax Exhibits

Every article exhibited must be the property of the exhibitor. All honey and wax exhibited, except in Wax Classes 18 – 29, must be the bona fide produce of the exhibitor's bees.

6. Comb Honey

Square Sections approximately 454g (1lb) must be enclosed in cardboard commercial sale section cases or white show cases. Round sections must have clear covers on both sides.

Cut Comb Honey must be shown in standard white cases with clear lids or clear cut comb cases and must have a gross weight between 200–255g (7–9 oz).
Frames must be shown in protective cases and the comb must be visible from both sides.

7. Extracted Honey

Must be exhibited in plain, clear 454g (1 lb) squat jars (glass or plastic) with standard gold lacquered metal, or gold or white plastic, screw tops or twist-offs, and matching, except in classes 10 and 32.

8. Mead

Must be shown in clear, colourless glass, punted bottles of approximately 750ml (26 fl oz) capacity with rounded, not sloping, shoulders and without lettering of any kind. Bottles with shallow punts are acceptable. Only white flanged corks should be used.

9. The Judge shall be empowered to withhold prizes in case of insufficient merit.

10.

Should there be any class of three or less entries, the value of the first prize may be reduced at the discretion of the Judge to that of the second, the second to that of the third and no third prize will be awarded.

11. Judging Times

Judging will commence at 13:30 hours on Wednesday, 17th June 2026, the day before the opening of the Royal Highland Show. The Honey Section will therefore be closed during the judging.

12. Movements of Exhibits

Honey exhibits may be placed in their positions in the Honey Section before the opening, and removed after the Royal Highland Show, by exhibitors themselves or their representatives. In the event of neither the exhibitor nor a person with written authority from the exhibitor being present to place or remove exhibits, they will be placed and removed by staff hired by RHASS, but this will be done on the understanding that those so hired, do so at the exhibitors risk and that RHASS will be in no way responsible for expenses incurred or loss of or injury to exhibits by errors or accidents in placing, despatching or conveying exhibits.

13. Honey Section opening times

The Honey Marquee will remain open to the public until 18:00 hours on Sunday, 21st June 2026, the last day of the Royal Highland Show. **Exhibits may be collected by hand only from 18:30 – 21:00 hours on Sunday, 21st June.** Honey exhibits will also be available for removal from 06:00 to 10:00 hours on Monday, 22nd June 2026. Thereafter, any exhibits remaining will be collected and taken to a members house where arrangements can be made for collection. (Details of this address will be available in the honey tent).

14.

The RHASS undertakes no responsibility for the receipt or despatch of exhibits, nor for any injury exhibits may sustain during the Royal Highland Show or otherwise.

15.

A ticket of admission to the Royal Highland Show, valid for use on one day only, will be sent to exhibitors who have submitted and paid for **eight or more entries**.

16.

Only those entered in the competitive classes can sell home produced honey and related products in the Marquee during the Royal Highland Show.

17. Labelling Regulations

1. The word HONEY may be prefixed with the type of honey and/or area of origin, e.g. Edinburgh Honey.
2. The metric weight must appear – figures to be at least 4mm high for 454g and 227g weights. If the imperial weight is shown it must be in close proximity to the metric and be less prominent. The 'e' symbol, if used will be ignored.
3. Your name and address must appear on the label. Email address is not sufficient.
4. The country of origin must be shown on the label, or within eye view of the label e.g. 'Produce of Scotland'. The county name alone at the end of your address is not sufficient.
5. A 'best before' date must appear (suggest 2-5 years) or an indication of where it can be found, e.g. for 'best before' see base of jar. If the date is given in full i.e. day, month and year there is no need for a lot number otherwise there must be a lot number. This information, if not on the label, should be within eye view of the label.

18.

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.

19. 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.