

NORTHUMBERLAND YFC HOST...
**VIRTUAL NORTHERN
AREA WEEKEND**



NORTHERN AREA OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS

NORTHERN AREA WEEKEND

SATURDAY 27th and Sunday 28th February 2021

JUDGES FEEDBACK AND OVERALL RESULTS

SATURDAY

Junior Public Speaking
Junior member of the Year
Senior member of the Year
Situations Vacant

SUNDAY

Junior Reading
Intermediate Brainstrust
Senior Debating

VENUE: VIRTUAL

HOST: NORTHUMBERLAND YOUNG FARMERS

RESULTS AND JUDGES FEEDBACK

Speaking Competitions – Saturday

Competition: Junior Speaking

Competition Day: Saturday 27th February 2021

Judges – Stewie Weatherson and Rachel Walton

Firstly, well done for reaching Northern Area Final which is a fantastic achievement. Here are a few generic comments for you.

Chairman/chairperson - Be clear and confident when speaking. Making sure you get the correct running order. Be engaging and deliver in a manner to make the audience take notice.

Speaker - Today's speakers all chose subjects close to them so they knew their content well. Some speakers chose to speak about hobbies and others gave very informative subjects and issues close to themselves. All of which are great topics but be sure to keep the speech flowing, whether it be with personal references or the use of facts. Try to keep an order and structure to the speech, thus making it easy to follow in the audience. Timings were very good from all teams and the quality of speakers, especially some of the younger ones spoke incredibly well. A couple of speakers were side-tracked when answering the questions put to them and as a result missed the point posed from the questions but this is an easily resolved issue. The standard of the vote of thanks was very good to see. Most picked up on key points from the speaker and asked very relatable and in depth questions. Don't forget you have 90 seconds, and some struggled to get past 30 seconds.

We thoroughly enjoyed our day listening to you all - If you would like any individual feedback just let us know, Thanks.

Stewie and Rachel

RESULTS – 2 teams to National

1st Cumbria A

Fearne Wharton, Mark Musgrave and Kate Rowland

2nd East Riding

Stella Chapman, Connie White and Zak White

3rd Yorkshire A

Charlotte Booth, Lucy Goulding and Lily Hall

Best Chairman – = 1st Cumbria A - Kate Rowland & East Riding - Connie White

Best Speaker – Yorkshire C – Izzy Bush

Best Vote of thanks – Cumbria A – Mark Musgrave

Competition: **Situations Vacant**
Competition Day: **Saturday 27th February 2021**
Judges: Matt Wallace and Kate Wallace

SEE EMAIL FOR INDIVIDUAL FEEDBACK

RESULTS – 2 Teams to National

1st Amanda Watson – County Durham

2nd Amy Bowness – Cumbria B

3rd Ben Thomas Cooper – Cumbria A

Competition: **Junior Member of the Year**
Competition Day: **Saturday 27th February 2021**
Judges: Rachel Goldie and Polly Baines

Thank you to everyone who has taken part and well done for getting through to the Northern Area rounds, that is a credit to itself!

We are happy to give more individual feedback if competitors would like to, we are both free at 8pm on Thursday 4th March to give any feedback if competitors would like as it's a learning opportunity as well as a competition! We will get a link sent to county chairs for a zoom should anyone wish to talk through any feedback too.

In general, we have some feedback for everyone as follows.

Synopsis forms;

- Make use of your synopsis forms – some were a little sparse and not as inspiring as others, that being said, the presentation was good so marks were scraped back there but it's easy points to lose by not filling them in completely.
- Keep to the same style. Some started listing items whilst others paragraphed then on the second page this changed over! For a member of the year, it should probably be more paragraphs than lists
- Keep it relevant- so many of the forms listed information from 5, 6 even 7 years ago! Whilst it's great to hear what you've done over the years, it's not really relevant to the competition and a simple paragraph to summarise the competition activity over the years would be great so you've got more space to talk about the relevant year (or in the case 2 years)

Presentations;

- Speak slowly and clearly-it's not a race. If your nervous, just take a breath and although it will feel like you are speaking slowly, just pace it down so

points aren't missed and you aren't left running out of breath, it comes with practice and confidence but bear it in mind

- Keep distractions to a minimum- when virtually competing, it is hard to keep home distractions down. Think about the chair you choose so you're not tempted to be swinging around or rocking back and forth on it whilst you're talking. Also think about where your eyes are. If you have notes, have them prepared and big enough to see the points without looking as if you are reading from another screen the other side of the room or looking as if someone is prompting you- we know it is really difficult as a virtual competition but it's something that is picked up on.
- Notes- keep them brief if you can. If you are practiced and know what you're saying, it flows much better if you have pointers rather than a full script

Appearance;

- Keep it smart; those of you in suits, well done as it made you stand out from those not in suits. And for those who didn't have their cards and consent forms ready, you really should have been prepared (this is when we noticed the jeans/ not so smart clothing for before the presentations!)

Well done to everyone who competed, it was really great to see everyone having a go. Those who haven't placed this time, don't be disheartened, we would love to see you entering again and having another go!

Hopefully we will see you soon at a final in person when the pandemic allows!

Many thanks,

Rachel and Polly

RESULTS – 1 Representative to National

1st Ruth Cooper – Cumbria A

2nd Henrietta Jarvis – Yorkshire A

3rd Billy Sibbald – Cumbria C

Competition: **Senior Member of the Year**
Competition Day: **Saturday 27th February 2021**
Judges: Grace Millbank and Mark Mather

"We felt that the standard of competition was incredibly high throughout all of today's competitors. You were all very enthusiastic and passionate about the organisation, with good knowledge of NFYFC. We both greatly enjoyed judging today, and it was particularly interesting to hear your different viewpoints on the matters currently affecting NFYFC. General feedback would be to consider the layout of your synopsis form, and how readable it is. You were all fantastic ambassadors for NFYFC, and your respective club's. To the younger members - please don't be disheartened were you have not scored as highly against more experienced candidates, keeping adding to your experience in YFC and come back again in future years to compete in this competition as you had great potential! We are happy to be contacted by any members wanting individual feedback"

RESULTS – 1 Representative to National

1st Vicky Harrison – Northumberland

2nd Hazel Stansfield – Lancashire

3rd Amy Swinbank – Cumbria B

Speaking Competitions - Sunday

Competition: **Junior Reading**

Competition Day: **Sunday 28th February 2021**

The title of the book will be *Gangsta Granny* by David Walliams (Sent by email 08/02)

ISBN NUMBER 978-0-00-737146-4

Judges: Joanna Harrison and Lindsay Patrick

We both really enjoyed judging and were very impressed at the standard in the junior reading competition.

Positives

Great introductions from all teams - clear introduction to team members and the book.
Good evidence of teamwork throughout.

Smart/well presented (clipboards)

Clear, fluent reading which kept the audience relaxed.

Audible

Adapted well to zoom

Most teams understood the book/story and this showed in their enthusiasm.

Improvements

Include some humour in your introduction - to catch audience's attention (we loved how some teams did this).

Ensure the description of the book is concise in the intro.

Keep to the timing in the introduction speech - some teams exceeded the 2 minute limit.

Make sure you follow the format - image below (especially the chairman introducing, thanking and summarising each reader).

Reader 2	Chair/ Reader 1	Reader 3
	Welcome & introduction to team and book (2 minutes)	
	First passage of book is read (no time limit)	
	Chair to introduce Reader 2	
Second passage from the book is read (no time limit)		
	Chair to thank Reader 2 and introduce Reader 3	
		Third passage from the book is read (no time limit)
	Chair to thank Reader 3, thank the audience for listening and close the session	
	END	

Get into characters more - differentiate tone/voices of characters. Be over the top - show some enthusiasm. Some readers were very clear and accurate, but lacked expression.

Think about pace, do some parts need to be read faster/slower to create drama/tension?

Some teams ended abruptly - think about the ending and thank the audience for listening.

A very close competition and we hope you find the above suggestions helpful. A huge well done for reaching Northern Area finals, this is a huge achievement and you all did yourselves proud. Best of luck for the teams who are going to the National Finals. Good Luck!

Thank you,
Joanna and Lindsay

RESULTS – 2 Teams to National

1st Yorkshire B

Reuben Schofield, Samuel Schofield and Ethan Schofield

2nd Cumbria C

Mark Musgrave, Rachel Bell and Margaret Bell

3rd Yorkshire C

Isabelle Bush, Lily Hughes and Eleanor Ashby

Best Chairman –

1st Mark Musgrave – Cumbria C

2nd Ruben Schofield – Yorkshire B

3rd Izzy Bush – Yorkshire C

Best Reader number 2 –

Sam Schofield – Yorkshire B

Best Reader number 3 – Connie White – East Riding

Competition: **Brainstrust**
Competition Day: **Sunday 28th February 2021**
Judges: Ian Close and Liz Grix

Firstly thank you to Northumberland for organising a fantastic weekend and secondly thank you all for competing and keeping Liz and myself entertained.

As feedback for this competition first and foremost remember it's a debate. This is a public speaking competition that you can have some fun with and add plenty of humour. Some teams lacked debate today and we understand it's not as easy sat in your front room on your own as it would be in person. For the chairman remember you are in charge of the meeting, time keeping was generally very good and the introductions were also very good but where some chairmen struggled was asking questions to keep the debate flowing and also controlling the panel. Try to select the topics to suit your panel. Panellists were often quite hesitant to speak, as we said before this is a debating competition make sure you get your points across (don't be shy) and also make sure when you want to speak that you go through the chairman. Speak with passion and enthusiasm, if a judge is watching 10 or 12 teams in a day the competitors who are enthusiastic and passionate will always stand out.

Once again thank you for giving us the opportunity to judge and good luck to the teams going forward. If anyone would like any individual feedback please get in touch.

Ian and Liz

RESULTS – 2 Teams to National

1st Yorkshire C

Steph Lee, Nathan Greenwood, Joe Holmes and Caleb Russell

2nd Yorkshire B

Anna Booth, Edward Bradley, Charlotte Booth and Becky Allen

3rd County Durham

Emma Lawson, Amanda Watson, Jessica Stewart and Holly Griffiths

Best Chairman

Joint 1st Leanne Little – Northumberland and Jessica Stewart- County Durham

3rd Will Jarvis - Yorkshire A

Competition: **Senior Debating**
Competition Day: **Sunday 28th February 2021**
Judges: Dewi Parry and Lesley Grieve

The standard of debating on show was broadly excellent. It isn't easy without an audience to be witty and engaging, but there were a number of chairmen and speakers today who looked like they had years of experience debating in a virtual world. The very best today, some of who will be representing Northern Area at the national finals, held the attention of both of us as judges throughout. They wove facts, opinions and wit together into wonderful persuasive speeches. It can't be easy to listen assiduously to every counter argument over a computer screen, but those that did made it count by giving some wonderful summaries. It was a joy to judge and you're a credit to your counties. Thank you very much for the pleasure.

Dewi and Lesley

RESULTS – 2 Teams to National

Team:

1st County Durham

Katie Sanderson, Alex McMenamy, Kate Tomlinson, Jessica Stewart and Emma Lawson

2nd Lancashire

Jennie Towler, Sarah Carr, Hazel Stansfield, Heather Alpe and Andrew Harrison

3rd Cumbria A

Leah Clough, Ben Cooper, Luke Hodgson, Alice Longmire and William Longmire

Individual

Best Chairman –

1st Hazel Stansfield – Lancashire

2nd Katie Rothery – Cumbria B

Joint 3rd – Katie Sanderson Durham, James Buckton East Riding and Abigail Pell Yorkshire C

Best Proposer

1st Kate Tomlinson – Durham

2nd Ben Cooper - Cumbria A

3rd Andrew Harrison – Lancashire

Best Proposer Second

1st Alex McMenamy - Durham

2nd Jennie Towler - Lancashire

3rd Hannah Young – Northumberland

Best Opposer

1st Luke Hodgson – Cumbria A

2nd Rebecca Gilliat – East Riding

3rd Lauren Porteous - Northumberland

Best Opposition Second

1st Jessica Stewart – Durham

Joint 2nd Guy Gilliat – East Riding and Robbie Tuer – Cumbria B

Thank you to all the competitors for adapting to the Virtual Competitions so well and logging on to all competitions on time – it certainly made the weekend a lot easier for us.

Hope to see you all at the Commercial Dance/Jump Rope and Sports Competitions in the near future!