



GENERAL RULES: 2021 - 2022 NFYFC COMPETITION RULES

1. Eligibility & Representation

- 1.1. Check the Eligibility & Representation rules that are recorded in individual competition rules.
- 1.2. For further information see papers on Eligibility & Representation in the Competitions resources online.
- 1.3. All competitors will be required to produce on the day of each round of the competition their **current, signed NFYFC membership card** that has the members' photograph properly attached. A valid card will state the number of the County for which the member is able to compete for.
- 1.4. All competitors must be registered on the NFYFC Silo Database on or before the County Round of any competition they compete in. This rule applies to any substitutes that are used at any round of a competition. ***In the absence of a County Round, members must be signed up on the NFYFC Silo Database prior to the first round that the member/team competes in a competition.***
- 1.5. This rule also applies to members in their last year of competition, where the NFYFC Final falls into the following year. Associate members, although not eligible to compete in 2022-23 competitions, must hold a 2022-2023 membership card to compete in the NFYFC Finals held on or after 1 September 2021 for the competition they competed in the previous membership year.
- 1.6. Failure to produce a membership card on the day of a competition will require the member to pay a £20 fine and prove their ID. Members aged 18 or over will need to confirm their ID using another form of official photo-ID and member's under 18 will be identified via another form of photographic ID or the parental consent forms submitted prior to the competition. For all 2021 - 2022 competitions a second form of Photographic ID (ie. Passport, Driving License, Shotgun certificate etc) will be required at all NFYFC Competition Finals for all members aged over 18, members must present their identification when booking in.
- 1.7. A Member who fails to produce their card on the day of a competition must, within 7 days of the competition, confirm that they are a member of a YFC Club affiliated to the NFYFC. If this is not confirmed to the NFYFC Competitions desk (post@nfyfc.org.uk), the competitor/the whole team will be automatically disqualified from the competition and marks will be re-awarded accordingly.
- 1.8. The NFYFC competitions steering group reserves the right to ask all YFC competitors to show another form of official photographic identification that clearly states the competitors date of birth.

2. Health & safety & safeguarding

- 2.1. All competitions carried out at every level must comply with Health and Safety and Safeguarding legislation and meet the relevant safety standards.
- 2.2. All competitors must be a paid-up member of the County they are representing, with a valid membership card for insurance purposes.
- 2.3. All members aged under 18 must complete a NFYFC Parental Consent form. The Parental Consent form must be completed and signed by a Parent/Guardian & the responsible person over the age of 18 who is present on the day of the competition. The parental consent form is required for any competition or Presentation of Awards Ceremony.
- 2.4. It is the responsibility of the County Federation to ensure these forms are completed and returned to NFYFC no later than 10 working days prior to the competition.
- 2.5. It is recommended that members under the age of 18 carry a copy of the completed Parental Consent form with them on the day of the NFYFC Final.

Please Note: NFYFC will not accept responsibility for any members under the age of 18 who have not produced their Parental Consent Form either in advance to NFYFC or on the day of the NFYFC Final. If the relevant forms are not received by the time of the NFYFC Final then, in accordance with the Federation's Safeguarding Policy, members will not be allowed to take part.

3. Representing one YFC Club only

- 3.1. ***Spirit of fair competition within YFC.*** Members can only compete for **one** YFC Club when participating in the NFYFC Competitions programme in any given year (1 September – 31 August) even if they hold more than one membership card.
- 3.2. This rule should be applied by County Federations – at the district/county rounds of the competitions throughout the year. This maintains the spirit of fair competition within YFC. To be clear each Club is affiliated to **one** County Federation and the County Federation fits within **one** of the Areas.
- 3.3. A County Federation may enter a composite team at any round of the competition, provided all competitors are signed up on the NFYFC Silo Database on or before the date of the County final or first round they compete at.

Please Note: Area Committee's may apply to the NFYFC Competitions Steering Group Chair for a special dispensation, to allow an Area Composite Team (made up of County Federation's within that Area only) to compete in an NFYFC Final, if there are no County teams taking part in an Area Final. No NFU Trophy points can be awarded to an Area Composite Team.

4. Participation in NFYFC competition finals

- 4.1. Competitors may take part in competitions as follows: -
 - 4.1.1. English Winter Fair - **one** competition per competition day
 - 4.1.2. Competitions Day - **one** competition per competition day**
 - 4.1.3. Sports Championships– **one** competition per competition day
 - 4.1.4. Great Yorkshire Show (Dairy judging & Sheep Shearing)- **one** competition per competition day
 - 4.1.5. Tug of War finals - **one** competition per competition day
 - 4.1.6. Stockman Weekend - **one** competition per competition day

4.1.7. Malvern Autumn Show - **one** competition per competition day

****Competitors entering the national finals at the Competitions Day will be able to stage a static exhibit, but this must be done prior to all other competitions booking-in times. Competitors entering the Situation Vacant, Auctioneering, Junior Member of the Year National Final will be able to take part in one additional competition on the same day. To note: Competitors taking part in the Show Choir OR Cheerleading may compete in ONE additional competition, a maximum of two competitions per member. This only relates to these two competitions. To Clarify: - Competitors may take part in both the Show Choir and Cheerleading as their two chosen competitions on Competitions Day. Please see below for clarification.**

ie. Competitor A – Can compete in Show Choir and Cheerleading

Competitor B – Can compete in Show Choir and one other competition

Competitor C – Can compete in Cheerleading and one other competition

This applies to the Show Choir and Cheerleading Competitions only and still means that competitors will be limited to a maximum of TWO competitions on the day.

4.2. NFYFC is an inclusive organisation that encourages and supports the participation of all our members. If you require any additional support or resources to participate effectively in any element of the competitions please contact the competitions department three weeks prior to the competition final to allow us to work with you so that specific arrangements can be made. This can include up to 50% extra time. If you would like any extra time to prepare for the competition, this can be arranged. Further information or advice to prepare for a competition can be sought from Dyslexia West Midlands at info@dyslexiawestmidlands.com.

4.3. Some NFYFC competitions require members to compete within a specific gender category (for example Men's or Ladies' Tug of War). Where a member would like to compete in a gender different to their biological sex assigned at birth, they will be required to notify NFYFC with a formal request received a minimum of 28 day prior to competition. NFYFC works in partnership with all associated sports' National Governing Bodies (NGBs) and diligently follows their rules and guidelines. Members' requests will be assessed on a case by case basis, liaising with the relevant NGB and in some cases medical information may be required. NFYFC will work with the member and the NGB to reach a decision on the request. If a member's request is not approved the member will still have the opportunity to compete in the gender associated with their biological sex assigned at birth.

5. **Fines & Late Withdrawal of Entries (including Parental Consent Forms)**

5.1. No deposits will be required prior to the NFYFC final.

5.2. **However**, withdrawals or cancellations made in the two (2) weeks before the day of the final will result in a fine of **£25**

5.3. Teams will be fined £100 for withdrawing within 48 hrs of the competition final

5.4. Individuals will be fined £40 for withdrawing within 48 hrs of the competition final

5.5. Competitors that fail to submit their parental consent form 48 hrs before the competition final will receive a fine amounting to £40. Entire teams that fail to submit their parental consent form 48 hrs before the competition final will receive a fine amounting to £100.

5.6. All fines are invoiced to County Federations and not the team/individual.

5.7. This rule applies to ALL Competitions at NFYFC Semi-finals and finals.

5.8. Area Finals held within the fine period will be subjected to the charges.

5.9. Fines will be imposed if the Area final is within the fine period

5.10. A fine of £75 will be imposed on those teams withdrawing from Fence Erecting on the day of the competition to cover the cost of the fencing materials

6. **Judges decisions and complaints**

6.1. The Judges' decision is final.

6.2. Written notification of **intention to lodge a complaint or to dispute the result must be received by the Chief Steward on the day of the competition no later than 1 hour of the results being announced**

6.3. Following the above, the detail of the complaint or dispute of the results must be received in writing at the YFC Centre, Stoneleigh Park **within 3 working days of the competition final. Email post@nfyfc.org.uk**

6.4. Official complaints or disputes can be made by Competitors (finalists) or County Chair's only.

7. **Amendments**

7.1. The NFYFC reserve the right to amend or cancel any of the rules.

8. **Expenses**

8.1. The NFYFC is not responsible for any expenses incurred by competitors or for arrangements for accommodation or travel.

9. **Behaviour and Material Content**

9.1. Unacceptable behaviour by competitors or supporters of teams which brings YFC into disrepute; or which may be deemed to adversely affect other competitors/performances will be penalised.

9.2. YFC Members are reminded that material of a questionable nature should not appear in any performance or speech. Material of a questionable nature and characters to the extreme will be penalised. Judges reserve the right to disqualify teams/members they perceive to be offensive or discriminatory.

9.3. Filming of any competition is not permitted without prior consent from NFYFC and all competing teams

9.4. Mobile Device (Phone, Tablet, Laptop etc) use during any competition is strictly prohibited.

10. **Awards**

10.1. All NFYFC Competitions will carry points towards the NFU trophy unless otherwise stated.

10.2. Members will be disqualified if they are not at the Presentation of Awards without prior permission being granted. County Organisers must submit an Absentee Form to NFYFC prior to the event.