



ROYAL
HIGHLAND
SHOW 2011

• 23-26 JUNE •

MAJOR SPONSOR



HoofBeat

Livestock and Competitions Newsletter - 17 Spring 2011

On-Line Entry Facility

If you are reading this newsletter in a printed version then you will have received an entry pack that has been sent by post. You may be about to sit down with numerous bits of paper and, armed with your trusty pen, start the process of filling in all the entry forms.

However, can we remind you that you can make and pay for all your entries on-line?

At the push of a button on your PC these on-line entries will all miraculously appear in our inboxes and filter directly into our "showbiz" computer programme. About 20% of you did this in 2010 and the feedback indicated it was an easy to manage system. To book go to www.royalhighlandshow.org

Follow Us

Social networking is something that many more of us of all ages are getting involved in, so why don't you add us to your list of favourites? We are to be found at RHS Show Department. We enjoy the interaction with our "fans" and we find it very useful to post reminders about looming deadlines or important news such as last minute changes of judges and so on.

facebook

Horse Ring Investment



Work in progress. The area has already been seeded over and is showing encouraging growth.

We have been under pressure for a number of years to cope with all of the horse sections that we currently hold as well as trying to accommodate requests for new classes. As a result, we have made some major investment in re-laying Ring 6a and doubling its size. This should enable us to create a better showing programme and enhance the showing experience for exhibitors. The ring will be known as The Thistle Ring.

Tail Docking Guidance

There was considerable attention focussed on this issue last year at shows the length and breadth of the UK and not just at the Royal Highland. Can we please re-inforce our guidance to you:

SHEEP WITH SHORT DOCKED TAILS: The Divisional Veterinary Manager will continue to monitor the standard of tail docking in sheep breeds at the Royal Highland Show. Exhibitors who present British born sheep with tails which are short of the legal minimum run the risk of prosecution. Exhibitors are reminded that the Society reserves the right to prohibit the showing of any sheep which are considered to have been overdocked and may require the removal of these sheep from the showground. It is in your interest to meet the legal requirements concerning the length of tails in order that formal legal action is not required.



The young sheep handler class introduced last year proved popular with 40 entries and it is anticipated there will be even more in 2011

New Sections And Classes

We are constantly bombarded by requests from breed and horse societies asking us to hold classes.

Unfortunately, with a very full programme we are not able to make everyone happy by saying "yes".

However, those with smiles on their faces in 2011 will be North of England Mules (Friday at 11.30 am), Sports Horses with an under saddle class for young horses with potential (Thursday circa 4pm), Hampshire Down sheep with an aged ewe class (Friday morning) and Intermediate Ponies with a Championship (Saturday 11.30 am).

**Royal Highland
Show Dates
2011 June 23-26
2012 June 21- 24**

Attention All Sheep Exhibitors

Year on year we find ourselves with a major headache in terms of trying to squeeze all the sheep that have been entered into the five marquees that serve the section. We have decided, therefore, to restrict the number of pens that each exhibitor can book per breed to 7, thus mirroring what we have done with cattle.

We have now split the combined stall/entry fee, so you can differentiate and enter more sheep than you book pens for, hedging your bets as it were.

There will be a ceiling as to the number of pens we will allocate to each breed, and once we find that these have been met for the more popular breeds, those exhibitors whose entries arrive after that will be put on a waiting list. It would be as well therefore to get in your entries in good time – it will be "first come first served".

* The good news for cattle exhibitors for 2011 is that we are increasing the number of stalls exhibitors can book per breed from 5 to 7.

Bottoms Up!

The Honey Marquee is one of the most popular venues at the show. The climate over the past few years has been somewhat difficult when it comes to honey making, although we know that more and more people are taking up beekeeping.

We would like to see an increase in the numbers of exhibitors in the Honey Section and as part of our drive to achieve this, we have introduced a new class – for cocktails!

So, get your mixers and shakers out and think up a dream drink, either alcoholic or non-alcoholic. The only stipulation is that one of the ingredients must be honey.



Time-Table Changes

Each year there are a number of these changes, although we try to keep them to a minimum to avoid confusion. However, with the expansion of our third horse ring - The Thistle Ring - our Horse Stewards felt it was time to have a look at refreshing the programme. So please look carefully at the top of each of the sections you are entering to find the day and time of your classes.

Notable changes include:

Cheese and Butter judging is being brought forward to Wednesday the 22nd.
Novice Hunters at 9am on the 23rd in the Main Ring
Hunters in Hand at 8 am on the 23rd in The Thistle Ring
Eriskay Ponies at 11.15am on the 23rd in The Thistle Ring
Sports Horses at 12.45pm on the 23rd in The Thistle Ring
Riding Horses are at 3pm on the 24th in Ring 6
The Goat Judging is now on Saturday 25th at 9am in a Sheep ring
The Side Saddle section is at 10.45 on Sunday 26th in the Main Ring
Grade C Show Jumping moves from Sunday to Thursday at 2.45pm in Ring 6.

Young Star

Laura Green is one of the youngsters who epitomises the future of showing in this country. Aged 14, Laura has many strings to her bow. Having started off with beef cattle, she has branched out into sheep and Clydesdale horses, ably showing her handling talents in all the disciplines.

Laura is the eldest daughter of Iain Green of W J & J Green, whose Corskie prefix is well renowned in the Simmental world. The Greens are hosting the NBA's Scotland Event this year on June 1st and Laura will no doubt be involved in a number of ways.

Her maternal grandfather is Sandy Rhind, Newton of Struthers, Kinloss, who has a pedigree Aberdeen Angus herd as part of his large mixed farming enterprise.

In 2010, Laura was one of 22 finalists (from over 160 entrants) who participated in the Aberdeen Angus Youth Development weekend at Stoneleigh.

She had her first experience of Clydesdale horse showing in 2010 culminating in a very creditable third place in the Young Handlers class at the City of Aberdeen Clydesdale Show.

Having qualified for the Young Handler Final to be held at the Royal Highland at Inverness on Sunday 26th, she will be getting in some serious practice with the Clydesdales in the fields that surround her house!



New Hotel In Locality

There is to be a new Premier Inn opening at Newbridge very shortly. Doubtless it will fill up very quickly for the show period – recent experience of the new Travel Lodge at Ratho indicates that these hotels will be fully booked year on year, so keep an eye on the Premier Inn website and get in quick!

Showers Upgrade

For those of you for whom the North Caravan Park is a home-from-home for show week, we are very pleased to be able to announce that the showers at the North Gate are undergoing a revamp, with particular focus being given to ensuring that a hot shower is available at any time of the day or night.

Doing The Business

Last year we established a Business to Business facility as we realised that many of you come to conduct business, whether pre-arranged or as a result of potential purchasers seeing your products or stock while at the show.

We felt people might appreciate somewhere that was conducive to doing business in a professional way, with a degree of privacy if desired.

We are now offering meeting rooms within our International Visitors Pavilion (which overlooks the Main Ring) where you can sit and chat, with complimentary tea and coffee and so forth.

If you would like to make a booking, or discuss how we might assist you in any way, please give David Cochrane a call on 0131 335 6207.



Sponsors News

Despite the tough economic climate, we are very pleased once more to find that virtually all of our sponsors wish to continue their involvement with the show in 2011.

Several companies have also increased their support with particular mention going to the Vion Food Group, Marks and Spencer and Norbrook.

A number of new sponsors are also coming on board, two of whom, Aquashield and the Aurora Hotel Collection, mean that once again our show jumping section is fully covered by sponsorship.

As we were going to print, we received confirmation

TURCAN CONNELL

SOLICITORS AND ASSET MANAGERS

that we had attracted a sponsor for our HOYS Qualifier Ridden Hunter classes on Thursday afternoon. Turcan Connell is a name renowned in legal circles throughout the UK for services to owners and managers of land and to private individuals. We look forward to welcoming them and their guests when our Main Ring will be looking at its absolute best, showcasing the cream of the crop of ridden hunter talent.

More late news...the Highland Cattle section is to be sponsored by Aberdeen Asset Management.



What's In A Name?

This year we have selected two identically named judges. In certain instances this could cause mayhem if they were to be muddled up, perhaps with a sheep judge being expected to sort out a bunch of mountain and moorland ponies!

However, if these Robert Robertsons get mistaken for each other it might not be too disastrous as both are judging horse driving, if on a different scale!

Mr Robertson from Ontario is the man in the middle for the Heavy Horse Turnouts, while Mr Robertson from Ayrshire will be placing the Private Driving.



Photo: Lynn Caldwell, Canada



Photo: Tom Best

Opportunity For 2011 - Class Sponsors

For £250 you could put a toe on the ladder of sponsorship. This investment will entitle you to two complimentary tickets and use of the facilities in our Sponsors Marquee at the Livestock Rings.

If you are interested in supporting the show in this way, give us a call.

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