**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS’ CLUBS**

*Status Final*

*July 2023*

Area Eliminator

**Competitions Programme 2023 - 2024**

**NFYFC Farm Machinery Skills**

## RULES

28 & under

***COUNTIES MAY WISH TO HAVE EACH TASK AS A STAND-ALONE COMPETITION WITH COMPETITORS THEN JOINING TOGETHER TO FORM THE COUNTY TEAM TO PROGRESS TO THE AREA FINALS.***

**Competition Aim**

To provide an opportunity for members to demonstrate their skills in farm machinery operation skills, being safe and efficient, whilst encouraging teamwork, in a competitive environment.

**Learning outcomes**

Practical skills in Farm Safety and First Aid including planning the safe completion of set tasks; perception of hazards, forward planning in preparation of appropriate tools and safety equipment for the tasks; leadership, teamwork.

REMINDER: Please read these rules in conjunction with **NFYFC General Rules** and familiarise all competitors with the **Fine System in place for withdrawal from competitions**.

Further information can be found at <https://nfyfc.org.uk/competition-organisers-resources>

1. **VENUE**
	1. After Area Finals, the NFYFC Final is to be held on **Saturday, 6th July 2024** at the County Showground, Stafford.
2. **REPRESENTATION**
	1. Counties may enter one team per 600 members or part thereof.
	2. Areas will be represented in the Final by one team per 3,000 members or part thereof. (Northern Area 2, Eastern Area 1, East Midlands 1, West Midlands Area 1, South West Area 2, South East Area 1 and Wales 2)
3. **ELIGIBILITY**
	1. A team shall consist of four (4) members all of whom must be 28 years of age or under on 1st September 2023 and full members of a Club affiliated to NFYFC. For this competition, members should working as a team to complete all tasks, planning their own time and duties.
4. **SUBSTITUTION**
	1. **All substitutes must have been eligible to compete in the County Final.**
5. **CERTIFICATES/LICENCES REQUIRED**
	1. **Task 1: Loader Tractor and Trailer:** Competitor requiresa UK driving licence with F entitlement. This must be produced on the day of the competition in order to participate in this task. (The F entitlement can be gained at 16; but is automatically entitled with passing the car driving test).
	2. **Task 2: Tractor and Pasture Topper** Competitor requiresa UK driving licence with F entitlement. This must be produced on the day of the competition in order to participate in this task. (The F entitlement can be gained at 16; but is automatically entitled with passing the car driving test).
	3. **Task 3: ATV Handling:** Adequate training must have been completed by the competitor who will operate the ATV. At the NFYFC final a certificate of competence to show ‘adequate training’ in ATV Handling must be produced. A copy of the certificate must be handed to the judges on the day of the competition.

A Certificate of Competence for ATV's, issued by City & Guilds NPTC is more than acceptable evidence of ‘adequate training’.  The appropriate City & Guilds NPTC qualification is known as the Level 2 Certificate in the Safe Use of All-terrain Vehicles (0014-32). However, a certificate issued by another training provider (e.g. Lantra) will also be accepted.  The most basic level of certificate which will be accepted is called an EASI (European All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute) certificate; available from most reputable ATV dealers. The EASI certificate is very much a dealer short induction course - a basic operators course designed to familiarise the operator with all the controls and operating procedures, which includes elements of safety. Whilst it ticks the box of ‘adequate training’, it should not be viewed as a replacement for a City & Guilds type course.

**[Under the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER) there is a legal requirement that “adequate training”, including the use of any towed equipment or attachments, be undertaken by those riding ATV’s. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) regards training provided by recognised training providers as “adequate” for the purposes of PUWER].**

* 1. **Task 4: First Aid:** The team member in control of the first aid task must hold a current first aid certificate of either the British Red Cross, St John Ambulance, or an alternative nationally recognised body. The certificate must be no more than 3 years old. A copy of the certificate must be handed to the competition judges on the day of each round of the competition. All teams to provide their own first aid kit.

**Failure to provide the requested certificates will result in the team not being allowed to compete.**

For clarity, the team should have at least 2 driving licences, 1 first aid certificate, and 1 ATV certificate.

Judges must make themselves aware which competitors have which certificates and licences.

1. **PROCEDURE**

**All competitors must take into account Health and Safety at all times. Correct personal protective equipment must be worn. Safe start and safe stop procedures must be adhered to.** All equipment must be returned to its original place after completion of each task.

* 1. The team shall appoint a leader who will undertake the duties of a foreman.
	2. Note that at the National Final this is a team competition. The competition tasks are not intended to be split into individual tasks - think ahead, work as a team, and plan your time. Judges will judge their allocated task, not necessarily an individual competitor.
	3. Competitors to provide their own tools. All equipment must be returned to its original place after completion of each task.
	4. **TASK 1: Loader Tractor (with bucket) and Trailer**

**Equipment required: 1.** Loader Tractor (approx. 100-150 hp); **2.** A flatbed trailer, such as a bale trailer or low loader.

* + 1. Note - to prevent needless repetition, there should be 2 work areas for this task, so that one competitor moves from one area to the other only once. The 2 areas should be similar size, layout, ground conditions, etc.
		2. One team member is required to carry out daily maintenance and safety checks on a tractor and trailer prior to the commencement of the task. The competitor is to carry out a verbal risk assessment with the judge on the task they will be completing.
		3. The competitor will unhitch the bucket from the loader onto the trailer, and secure the bucket using ratchet straps. Each team to provide their own ratchet straps to secure the load.
		4. The competitor will hitch the trailer and prepare for travel along a public highway, and the competitor to follow a course including turning on to, travelling along, and turning off a simulated public road.
		5. Competitor to unhitch the trailer.
		6. Competitor to reattach the bucket to the loader and park the tractor.
	1. **TASK 2: Tractor and pasture topper**

**Equipment required: 1.** Tractor (approx. 80-150 hp); **2.** A 3-point linkage mounted pasture topper.

* + 1. Competitor(s) will carry out daily maintenance and safety checks on the tractor and topper prior to the commencement of this task. This will include a verbal risk assessment with the judge on the task they will be completing.
		2. Competitor to demonstrate changing a blade of the pasture topper – must provide suitable tools.
		3. The combination should then be prepared for work.
		4. Note - if at all possible, the competitor should actually operate the machine on a small area of suitable ground.
		5. Competitor(s) to demonstrate knowledge of settings and adjustments of the tractor and machine. (This to be done via questions/answer session, as there will not be sufficient time to physically complete numerous tasks).
		6. Competitor(s) to park the implement and unhitch, and return the tractor to the original position.
	1. **TASK 3: ATV**

 **Equipment required: 1.** Sit-astride ATV **2.** Trailer **3.** Sheep handling hurdles - minimum 6

* + 1. The competitor will carry out daily maintenance and safety checks on a sit-astride ATV prior to commencement of task. This is to include a verbal risk assessment with the judge on the task they will be completing.
		2. A competitor will drive the ATV through a course as instructed by the judge, typically involving passing through poles or cones to mark gateways to demonstrate their skills at manoeuvring the ATV.
		3. The competitor will then drive to a site where a number of hurdles have been assembled into a sheep holding pen, with the trailer parked inside the pen. The competitor will hitch the trailer, dismantle the hurdles, and load them onto the trailer, secure the load, then move to another site and use the hurdles to construct an arrangement suitable for herding a small number of sheep into. Competitor to decide and discuss their pen layout, not simply copy the previous arrangement.
		4. The competitor will then park the trailer in their new pen and drive the ATV back to its starting point.

**All competitors must take into account Health and Safety at all times. Correct personal protective equipment must be worn. Safe start and safe stop procedures must be adhered to.**

* 1. **TASK 4: FIRST AID**

**Suggested Equipment:** First Aid Kit.

* + 1. During the course of the practical exercise, a mock farm accident will be staged. Teams will be informed when the accident happens; it is the decision of the team as to how and who deals with the incident. It is expected that there will be by-bystanders who may be questioned regarding the accident. The First Aid Judge will indicate when the casualty has been satisfactorily dealt with and when the member (or members) may recommence work.
		2. Knowledge of elementary First Aid is necessary, but in no case will competitors be expected to render assistance further than instructed in the Joint First Aid Manual of St. John Ambulance and The British Red Cross (available from WH Smith or other large bookshops). The Highway Code and Farm Safety Regulations must be applied at all times. If, in the opinion of the Judges, a competitor is undertaking a Task in a way likely to endanger them or others; the competitor will be stopped and the danger brought to his attention. The competitor will be expected to correct the matter and then continue with the Task.
	1. **TASK 5: HAZARD PERCEPTION (AT THE NFYFC FINAL ONLY). Supported by The Farm Safety Foundation: Yellow Wellies Campaign. This is to be confirmed**
		1. The 4 individuals from the above tasks will join together to undertake a team hazard perception task. Competitors will be asked to identify 5 hazard scenarios such as (but not limited to): working at height, working with machinery and awareness of overhead power cables
		2. Competitors will have a maximum of 5 minutes per scenario.
1. **TIMING**

**Tasks 1 – 4:** Competitors will be asked to stop after 35 minutes.

**Task 5 (NFYFC Final Only):** Competitors will be asked to stop after 5 minutes per scenario.

* + 1. At the NFYFC Final, Tasks 1 to 3 will run concurrently therefore competitors will only be able to take part in one of these tasks. Tasks 4 & 5 will be run as a team at the National Final. However, counties are encouraged to run each task separately and allow competitors to do more than one task if their timetable allows. This will encourage maximum participation and counties to select the best team possible to represent them.
1. **SCALE OF MARKS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Foreman | 30 |
| Teamwork | 70 |
| Task 1: Tractor and Trailer | 100 |
| Task 2: Tractor and topper | 100 |
| Task 3: ATV  | 100 |
| Task 4: First Aid | 100 |
| Task 5: Hazard Perception | 100 |
|  **TOTAL** | **600** |

1. **AWARDS**
	1. The ATS Euromaster Perpetual Challenge Trophy and NFYFC prize cards to the winning team.
	2. NFYFC Prize Cards to teams placed 2nd and 3rd.
	3. NFYFC Certificate of Achievement will be awarded to all members of teams in the final.
2. **COMPETITORS TO NOTE**
	1. Arley Medical will be present at the National Final in conjunction with Task 4: First Aid. Counties and Areas can contact Arley to support their rounds of this competition. Please contact margaret.bennett@nfyfc.org.uk for further information.