Sheep Section

Rules for Sheep Exhibitors

1. Breed champions are required to attend the interbreed championships. Failure to do so may result in prize money being withheld.
2. It is essential that Isolation areas have been passed and license issued - Any queries should be addressed to DAERA.
3. Movement permits must be brought to the show – SHEEP WITHOUT A PERMIT WILL BE TURNED AWAY. Please make your way to the permit stand where your permit will be stamped in accordance with DAERA regulations.
4. Exhibitor numbers will NOT be issued.
5. Due to Bio-Security Measures, Straw is Prohibited for use at Ballymena Show – sawdust may be allowed – exhibitors must supply their own bedding.
6. Sheep for Exhibition, showing signs of any kind of disease, will have to be removed by the Owner immediately.
7. Parking – please follow the signs and instructions issued by the stewards.
8. All sheep classes will be judged on Saturday 30th May 2026, commencing from 10am
9. Amalgamation/Division/Cancellation of Classes. Where, in the opinion of the Association, there are either insufficient or too many entries in any one Class, the Association may, without reference to the Exhibitor or Agent, amalgamate, divide or cancel such Class. Amalgamation may be effected with any other similar, or relevant Class, with or without increase of Prize Money, but where a Class is divided, similar Prize Money will be paid in each division.
10. Entry Fees: Members £5; Non-Members £7 – SHEEP ENTRIES CLOSE ON 16th May 2026. Prize Money in Sheep 1st £15, 2nd £10. 3rd £5
11. In all brood ewe classes, ewes with unsound udders will be disqualified. Ewes must have reared a lamb in 2026.
12. Prize money will be paid securely into bank account given online
13. Please note - all drivers outside a radius of 65kms must have animal transporter authorisation certificate

SPONSORS OF BALLYMENA SHOW 2026

Ballymena Show would not exist without the support it receives through our sponsors and as such, we are extremely grateful to all those who support our event in any way.

FRIENDS OF BALLYMENA SHOW

Ballynamaddy Farm Horse Haylage - Chipmaster - D J McKay & Sons - Hitt The Diff Tractor Parts - Jamie Quinn Farrier - J E McKernan - J R Frew Accountants - Le Jardin Sauvage - Maine Bakery -McNeills Hardware - Mr Ernest O'Hara - Mrs Mary Knox - NI Limousin Cattle Club - Stirling Trophies - The Kernohan Family - Texel Club - Ulster Ayrshire Cattle Club

BRONZE LEVEL

AHV UK & Ireland - AK Offroad Ltd - Ballymena Credit Union - B H Dickey & Sons - D A Forgie - Farm Vet Services Templepatrick - Francis Dinsmore Ltd - George Hamilton - Glendale Finance - H A McIlwrath & Sons - Horse Finder - John Thompson & Sons - K & G McAtamney - Killyless Stores - Lakeland Dairies - Lisnafillan Vets - McCarroll Plant Hire - McKay Bros - McKeown Accountants - NI Pygmy Goat Club - Property Claims - Ravelglen Furniture - Ringside Cafe - Robin Rainey & Sons - Samuel Cumming & Son - Samore Plant Centre

SILVER LEVEL

Adair Arms Hotel - AH Fuels - Andrew kennedy plant hire - Ballymena credit union - Barenbrug - Chestnutt Animal Feeds - Creagh Concrete - Dale Farm – Dairy Herd Management - D T Carson - Estco - Fane Valley Feeds - Grassmen - Haldane Fisher - Joe Black Agri Contractor - J & R Fuels - McCurdys Fuels - Mccarroll McConnell - Mill Vets - Moores Animal Feeds - Oldstone Vets - Rainey & Gregg - Sam Kelly Lime Spreading - Semex Ltd - S H Coleman - Stevenson Quarries - United Feeds - Wilsons of Rathkenny - World Wide Sires

GOLD LEVEL

Andrews/Mortons Flour - Ballymena Recovery Services - Breedon Group - Connell Hill Equestrian - Danske bank - Donnelly & Taggart - Jimmy Kernohan & Sons - Knox Electrical - MB Motors - Mckerville Neilly Solicitors - Portequip - R J Cherry & Son - Ross Companies - Steeltech Sheds Ireland -Stream Bio Energy Tully

PLATINUM LEVEL

Hamills recycling - Stephens Catering Equipment - Tullyglass Hotel - W R Kennedy

REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO EXHIBITORS

Intending Exhibitors are requested to read the Rules carefully, and not to lodge Entries unless they are prepared to comply strictly with the Regulations.

1. Lodging Entries. Enter online at www.showingscene.com or entry forms accurately completed and signed by the Exhibitor or Agent must be lodged with or sent by post to the Secretary of CAAA together with the amount of the Entry Fees where applicable.Cheques to be made payable to the County Antrim Agricultural Association (CAAA). Entries on plain paper cannot be accepted. The Association requests that intending Exhibitors lodge their entries with the Secretary as early as possible before the period for receiving Entries closes.
2. Entries Close. No Entry will be accepted unless it has been received on or before the closing date and is accompanied by the full amount of the fees.
3. Postponement. The Association reserves the right to [postpone or the Show but will not be responsible to any intending Exhibitor for loss incurred by reason of such postponement or abandonment.
4. Full particulars. All particulars required in the Entry Form must be stated, otherwise the exhibit is liable to be disqualified and excluded from the Show. The exhibit must be that as described in the Entry Form, and no other.
5. Verification of Statements. Each Exhibitor or agent must be prepared to verify every statement contained in the Entry Form in any manner the Association may require.
6. Exhibits not sent. Any person entering an exhibit, and failing to send same for exhibition, shall forfeit the Entry Fee.
7. Rejection of Entries. The Association reserves to itself the right to reject any Entry without assigning any reason thereof. In the event of the Association being unable to accept any entry, notice will be given not later than six days before the show, and the fees lodged will be refunded, or in any case of there being insufficient entries in a class where the Association withdraws the class from competition, the Entry Fees will be refunded.
8. Amalgamation/Division/Cancelling of Classes. Where, in the opinion of the Association, there are either insufficient or too many entries in any one Class, the Association may, without reference to the Exhibitor or

Agent, amalgamate, divide or cancel such Class. Amalgamation may be effected with any other similar, or relevant Class, with or without increase of Prize Money, but where a Class is divided, similar Prize Money will be paid in each division.

9. Entry Fees will not be refunded should an exhibitor wish to cancel any of his/her entries.
10. Due to Bio-Security measures, STRAW IS PROHIBITED.
11. Any minors accompanying Exhibitors to the Show are the responsibility of the Exhibitor. Child Exhibitors must be accompanied by an adult.

Exclusion of Liability
Ballymena Show Committee will not be responsible for accidents or losses.
County Antrim Agricultural Association, as organisers of Ballymena Show 2026, requires all entrants and exhibitors as a fundamental condition of entry to undertake and accept that Ballymena Show Committee shall not be liable in any way for any claim for compensation or otherwise which may arise out of or be connected with the Show including without prejudices to the generality of the foregoing, the holding, abandonment or alteration of the date of the Show, omission of any entry, the rejection or removal of any animals or other exhibit, the removal or exclusion of any owner, groom, rider or attendant from the Show, or the appointment decision, act or omission of any Judge, Officer, Official, employee or other persons be in any way responsible or accountable for anything that may happen (from any cause or circumstance whatsoever) to the Exhibitors or their Attendants or to any exhibit or property brought into the Showgrounds, or for anything else in connection with, or arising out of, or attributable to Ballymena Show. Each Exhibitor shall be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, Injury or damage done to or occasioned by, or arising from any animals or item exhibited by him/her, and for its description as given in the Catalogue. Exhibitors shall indemnify the Ballymena Show committee against all legal or other proceedings in regards thereto.
All Exhibitors must comply with the above rules.
30/05/2026 10:30

Greyface

Prize money kindly sponsored by Grassmen 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and reserve kindly sponsored by Ernest O'Hara - Prize money champion £20, Reserve £10
All exhibits in the Greyface sheep section, except suckling ewes and this years lambs, must be shorn on or after 1st April 2026
Suckling ewes may be shown either shorn or unshorn, as desired
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

David Walker (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

The Danske Bank/NISA Sheep Championship 2026

Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Rachel Buckle Porter (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
0 NISA	DANSKE BANK / NISA SHEEP CHAMPIONSHIP 2026	DANSKE BANK / NISA SHEEP CHAMPIONSHIP 2026 For the best ewe, any breed, any age, having reared a lamb in 2026. The Danske Bank / NISA Sheep Championship is being held this year at Castlewellan Show on Saturday 18th July 2026. All exhibitors wishing to qualify for this Championship must enter the name / breed of their animal(s) and exhibitor details with the qualifying show. Only the 1st and 2nd placed ewes, any breed, any age, having reared a lamb in 2026, in the relevant Sheep classes at Ballymena Show are eligible to go forward to the Danske Bank / NISA Sheep Championship. To maximise attendance of qualified exhibits at the Championship Final, those who qualify must confirm their intention to be present at Castlewellan Show on 18th July 2026 for the Championship Final. In the event of qualified exhibitors not wishing to attend the Final, the next placed animal will qualify. . No exhibitor may qualify more than two exhibits for the Championship Final. NISA will present special rosettes to the exhibitors of both qualifying animals at each qualifying Show. Prize Money at the Final Champion - £300 plus Crystal Trophy and Sash Res. Champion £200 3rd Prize £100 4th Prize £50 The Qualifying Shows are Ballymena, Ballymoney, Lurgan, Armagh, Saintfield, Newry, Omagh and Castlewellan.

Badger Face Texel

Prize money kindly sponsored by Sam Kelly Lime Spreading - Prize Money 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Allen Shortt (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
202	Ram two year old and over	
203	Ram one year old	
204	Ram lamb	
205	Ewe, two years old and upwards, having reared a lamb in 2026	
206	Ewe one year old	
207	Ewe lamb	
208	Champion Badger Face Texel	No entry required

Jacob Sheep

Prize money kindly sponsored by J and R Fuels 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Cathal Walsh (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Dutch Spotted Sheep

Prize money kindly sponsored by J and R Fuels 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Allen Shortt (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Suffolk Cheviot

Prize money kindly sponsored by Thomas Hamill & Sons Recycling 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and Reserve Champion kindly sponsored by Thomas Hamill & Sons Recycling - Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Jj Doherty (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Swaledale

Prize money kindly sponsored by DT Carson Accountants 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Jimmy Bell (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Zwartbles

Prize money kindly sponsored by The Breedon Group 1st £15, 2nd £10, £5
Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Mary Cashel (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
168	Ram any age	
169	Ewe, having produced lambs in 2026	
170	Gimmer	
171	Ram lamb born in 2026	
172	Ewe lamb born in 2026	
173	A group of three Zwartbles	Exhibits in this class must be entered in the appropriate class above and not more than one exhibit from any one class
174	Champion Zwartble	no entry required

Beltex

Prize money kindly sponsored by McCurdy Fuels - 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and reserve kindly sponsored by Hitt The Diff Tractor Parts - Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Jack O'Brien (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Kerryhill

Prize money kindly sponsored by RJ Cherry & Son 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and reserve kindly sponsored by Robin Cherry - Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Glen Latimer (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
152	Ram two years old and upwards	
153	Ram one year old	
154	Ram lamb	
155	Ewe, two years old and upwards, having reared a lamb in 2026	
156	Ewe one year old	
157	Ewe lamb	
158	A group of three Kerryhill	Exhibits in this class must be entered in the appropriate class above and not more than one exhibit from any one class
159	Champion Kerryhill	no entry required

Valais Blacknose

Prize money, champion and reserve kindly sponsored by WR Kennedy and Diamond Valais Blacknose Farm 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and Reserve kindly sponsored by Mill Vets - Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
All entries in the Valais Blacknose Sheep section are restricted to sheep from Valais Blacknose registered flocks
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Niamh Fortune (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

North Country Cheviot

Prize money kindly sponsored by Mason Feeds 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
All entries in the North Country Cheviot Sheep Section are restricted to sheep from registered flocks
All exhibits except this years lambs must comply to bare clip, Rule 14
RULE 14 - there shall be no more than one inch of wool on any part of the body at the date of inspection. Inspection will be carried out by the society's inspectors on or after the first day of May each year
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

David Walker (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
133	Ram, two years old and upwards	
134	Ram, one year old	
135	Ram lamb born in 2026	
136	Ewe, two years old and upwards, having reared a lamb in 2026	
137	Ewe one year old	
138	Ewe lamb, born in 2026	
139	Pair of lambs born in 2026	
140	Pair of hogget ewes	
141	Group of three North Country Cheviot sheep	Exhibits in this class must be entered in the appropriate class above and not more than one exhibit from any one class
142	Champion North Country Cheviot	No entry required

Blackface - Perth Type

Prize money kindly sponsored by Danske Bank and Breedon Group 1st £15,2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and reserve champion kindly sponsored by McKays Bros Quads - Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
All exhibits in Blackface Sheep classes, except suckling ewes and this years lambs, must be shorn on or after 1st April 2026
Suckling ewes may be shown either shorn or unshorn, as desired
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Sean Og McCusker (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Mules

Prize money kindly sponsored by W.R.Kennedy &Co 1st £15, 2nd £10, £5
Champion and reserve champion kindly sponsored by TJ Hamills Recycling - Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Dean Kerrigan (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Border Leicester

Prize money kindly sponsored by W.R.Kennedy & Co 1st £15, 2nd £10 , 3rd. £5
Champion and Reserve kindly sponsored by Ernest O'Hara - Prize money champion £20, reserve £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

David Walker (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Dorset

Prize money kindly sponsored by Lisnafillan Farm Vets 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and Reserve kindly sponsored by McCurdy Fuels - Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Philip Hegarty (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
21	Ram, two years old and upwards	
22	Ram, one year old	
23	Ram lamb	
24	Ewe two years old and upwards having reared a lamb in 2026	
25	Ewe one year old	
26	Ewe lamb	
27	Pair of lambs	
28	Pair of hogget ewes	
29	Group of three Dorset Sheep	Exhibits in this class must be entered in the appropriate class and not more than one exhibit from any one class
30	Champion Dorset	No entry required Prize money - Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10

Suffolk

Prize money kindly sponsored by W.R. Kennedy & Co 1st £15, 2nd £10, £5
Champion and Reserve kindly sponsored by McCurdy Fuels -Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
All entries in the Suffolk Sheep Section are restricted to sheep from Registered Suffolk Flocks.
Ear numbers must be given

Suffolk Sheep Society present a special rosette for the best exhibit in this section(entered by a registered Suffolk flock owner.)
The NI Suffolk Sheep Society - Ballymena Show has been designated as one of the "points" shows for the following awards:- Show Team of the Year, Male of the Year.
Smithkline Trophy and Female of the year - Suffolk Sheep Society NI Branch Trophy.
Best pair of lambs entered for the class in which they are eligible must be exhibitor bred.
Above awards to be presented at the Annual Suffolk Society Dinner Dance.
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Jj Doherty (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Texel

Prize money kindly sponsored by Knox Electrical and Ni Texel Club 1st £15, 2nd £10. 3rd £5
Champion and Reserve kindly sponsored by DT Carson - Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
All exhibits, except this years lambs, must be shorn. NO trimming or dressing allowed.

'Points may be gained in all the classes which will be counted towards the NI Texel Show Flock Competition'
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Brian Hanthorn (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Blue Texel

Prize money kindly sponsored by TJ Hamill and Sons Recycling 1st £15, 2nd £10. 3rd £5
Champion and Reserve Champion kindly sponsored by Sam Kelly Lime Spreading - Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Brian Hanthorn (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
51	Ram, two years old and over	
52	Ram, one year old	
53	Ram lamb	
54	Ewe, two years old and upwards, having reared a lamb in 2026	
55	Ewe one year old	
56	Ewe lamb	
57	Champion Blue Texel	No entry required

Ile de France

Prize money kindly sponsored by Danske Bank 1st £15, 2nd £10. 3rd £5
Champion and Reserve kindly sponsored by M.B. Motors - Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
All exhibits, except this years lambs must be shorn.
No grooming of sheep is allowed - sheep to be shown naturally
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Brian Hanthorn (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
64	Pair of lambs	

Hampshire Down

Prize money kindly sponsored by Hampshire Down Society NI 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and reserve champion kindly sponsored by Glendale Finance - Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
All exhibits except this years lambs must be shorn
All exhibitors must be bonafide members of the Hampshire Down Breeders Association
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Jim Fletcher (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Rouge De L'Ouest

Prize money kindly sponsored by Wilsons of Rathkenny 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and Reserve kindly sponsored by Wilsons of Rathkenny -Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Jayne Tannahill (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Charollais

Prize money kindly sponsored by Charollais Sheep Society NI
1st £15, 2nd £10, £5
Prize money kindly sponsored by Chestnutt Animal Feeds Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Gareth Beacom (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
88	Ram two years old and upwards	
89	Ram, one year old	
90	Ram lamb	
91	Ewe, two years old and upwards, having reared a lamb in 2026	
92	Ewe one year old	
93	Ewe lamb	
94	Pair of lambs	
95	Pair of hogget ewes	
96	Group of three Charollais sheep	Exhibits in this class must be entered in appropriate class above and only one exhibit from any one class
97	Champion Charollais	No entry needed

Blue Faced Leicester

Prize money kindly sponsored by Fane Valley Feeds 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and Reserve Champion kindly sponsored by George Hamilton - Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Dean Kerrigan (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
98	Ram two years old and upwards	

Blackface - Lanark Type

Prize money kindly sponsored by DA Forgie 1st £ 15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5
Champion and Reserve kindly sponsored by McKay Bros Quads - Prize money Champion £20, Reserve Champion £10
All exhibits in Blackface Sheep classes except suckling ewes and this years lambs, must be shorn on or after 1st April 2026
Suckling ewes may be shown either shorn or unshorn as desired
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Eoin McKenna (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
111	Ram two years old and upwards	

Any Other Native Breed

Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Brian Hanthon (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Any Other Continental Breed

Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Brian Hanthon (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Interbreed Ram Lamb Championship

Kindly sponsored by T.J. Hamill & Sons Recycling
Prize money - champion £50, reserve champion £40, 2nd reserve champion £30, 3rd reserve champion £20
NO ENTRY REQUIRED - the winner of this class in every breed will be eligible
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Rachel Buckle Porter (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Interbreed Ewe Lamb Championship

Kindly sponsored by MB Motors
Prize money - champion £50, reserve champion £40, 2nd reserve champion £30, 3rd reserve champion £20
No entry required as the winner of this class in every breed will be eligible
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Rachel Buckle Porter (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Supreme Sheep Championship

Kindly sponsored by United Feeds
Prize money - champion £60, reserve champion £50, 2nd reserve champion £30, 3rd reserve champion £25
No entry required
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Rachel Buckle Porter (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Sheep Young Handlers

Entries will be taken on show day prior to the sheep championship but will not be catalogued
Kindly sponsored by Ringside Cafe, Ballymena
Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Rachel Buckle Porter (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
4	Sheep Young Handlers Competition	open to those aged 8 - 14 The capabilities of the handler will be assessed, not the animal being shown. Only animals that have already competed in the normal show classes may be used. All exhibitors must be deemed capable of handling the animal being shown and the owner of the animal being shown must be at a safe distance. Kindly sponsored by Ringside Cafe, Ballymena Prize money 1st £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5, 4th £5, 5th £5, 6th £5, 7th £5

The Clogher Valley Show Young Handlers Sheep Qualifier

Ring: Sheep ring

Judges

Rachel Buckle Porter (Judge)

Number	Name	Description