Royal Ulster Agricultural Society

Delivered by the RUAS

THE ROYAL ULSTER WINTER FAIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Danske Bank

PRIZE SCHEDULE

Thursday 10 December 2026





Helping NI farms grow.

Generation upon generation.

For Northern Ireland farmers, working alongside Danske Bank is second nature to many and often goes back generations. We are proud of the continued support we offer to the wide and diverse agribusiness community, and in helping shape a better future for the generations to come.

Danske Agri

Danske Bank

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THE ROYAL ULSTER WINTER FAIR 40

Danske Bank

THURSDAY 10th DECEMBER 2026

Royal Ulster Agricultural Society
Eikon Exhibition Centre
Balmoral Park
Halftown Road
Lisburn
Co Antrim
BT27 5RF
Tel: 028 90 665225
Email: karen@ruas.org.uk

JUDGING PROGRAMME

(Provisional)

Final timetable of judging will be published following close of entries

8.30 am	Judging of Calf Classes
10.00 am	Showmanship Classes
11.00 am	Judging of Dairy Shorthorn, Jersey, Ayrshire and Holstein breed classes
	Judging of Junior Championships
	Judging of Heifer Championships
12.30 noon	Lunch Break
1.00 pm	Class judging continued
3.00 pm	Judging of Breed Championships
4.00 pm (approximately)	Judging of Supreme Championship

JUDGE: Cattle Classes: Alta Mae Core

JUDGE: Young Handlers – Jane Steele

JUDGE: Best Kept Dairy Stall & Trade Stand: Alan Timbrell

ENTRY PROCEDURE

ENTRIES OPEN:
WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2026

ENTRY CLOSE:
FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2026 (5.00 pm)

ONLINE ENTRIES www.winterfair.org.uk

Cattle may only be entered in one class.

Exhibitors must book the number of stalls which they wish to use during the Show and may enter as many animals as they wish on or before the closing date for entries. Exhibitors may not bring to the Show more animals than the number of stalls reserved at the time of entry.

Procedures for movement of cattle are listed in the Show Guidance for exhibitors. A copy can be downloaded from the DAERA website. Please see BVD regulations at the end of the schedule.

PLEASE NOTE ALL MOVEMENT OF ANIMAL SHOULD BE COMPLETED USING NIFAIS ONLINE.

To be eligible to compete at the Winter Fair 2026, all cattle entries must be vaccinated against Bluetongue virus (BTV-3).

1. Bluevac 3: Cattle can start vaccination at 2 months old, be revaccinated 3 weeks later, and will be immune 3 weeks after that.
2. Bultavo 3: Cattle can be vaccinated at 1 month old in naïve animals*, revaccinated 3 weeks later, and will be immune 3 weeks after that.
3. Syvazul BTV3: Cattle can be vaccinated at 2 months old in naïve calves/3 months from immune dams, revaccinated 3 weeks later, and will be immune 3 weeks after that.

Exhibitors should consult with their vet to confirm how long their Bluetongue vaccination remains valid.

Exhibitors from outside Northern Ireland
It is the sole responsibility of cattle exhibitors from outside Northern Ireland to ensure that their animals meet all current veterinary import and export regulations to enable their animals to travel to the Royal Ulster Winter Fair, and return, with the necessary import and export certification.

STALLING & ENTRY FEES

	RUAS MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
Stall Fee (per stall)	£40.00	£45.00
Entry Fee (per entry)	£9.50	£16.00
Showmanship Class Fee	£6.50	£6.50

Note: All stall and entry fees are non-refundable. All entry fees/stalling fees include VAT

PRIZE MONEY

Below are the number of cash prizes to be awarded provided the Judge finds sufficient merit (Reg 53).

PRIZES FOR NOT IN MILK CLASSES

1st	£150	6th	£40
2nd	£100	7th	£30
3rd	£60	8th	£25
4th	£50	9th	£20
5th	£45	10th	£15

PRIZES FOR IN MILK CLASSES

1st	£200	6th	£80
2nd	£150	7th	£60
3rd	£110	8th	£50
4th	£100	9th	£40
5th	£90	10th	£30

SPECIAL AWARDS

SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES
1st £50, 2nd £30, 3rd £20.

BEST UDDER AWARDS
Rosette and red tail ribbon for Best Udder in each class. Only in milk animals are eligible.

EXHIBITOR BRED AWARDS
Best Exhibitor Bred animal in each class £50. Exhibitor bred status is defined in the relevant Breed Society rules.

BEST KEPT DAIRY STALL AWARD
1st £75, 2nd, £50, 3rd £25.
All exhibits will be entered automatically for this award which is confined to individual exhibitors. The Judge will take into consideration presentation of cattle, cleanliness of lines, marketing and promotion of the herd and the attendants associated with the herd.

SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES

CLASS

1 Junior Showmanship (handlers under 13 years of age on 1st January 2026)
2 Intermediate Showmanship (handlers aged between 13-15 years on 1st January 2026)
3 Senior Showmanship (handlers aged between 16-20 years on 1st January 2026)
4 Mature Showmanship (handlers aged between 21-26 years on 1st January 2026)

SPECIAL

S1 Young Handler Championship - Champion Rosette & Plaque & Reserve Champion Rosette, Honorable Mention.

DAIRY SHORTHORN

All animals must be entered in the Dairy Shorthorn Register of Coates's Herd Book.

The Shorthorn Society Show Regulations (latest version) will apply to all exhibitors and exhibits in the Dairy Shorthorn section.

CLASS

5 **MAIDEN HEIFER**
6 **HEIFER,** in milk, must have calved by three years of age.
7 **JUNIOR COW,** in milk, in second lactation
8 **SENIOR COW,** in milk, in third or later lactation

SPECIALS

S2 Breed Championship - Champion £250, Reserve £150, Honorable Mention.
S3 Best Exhibitor Bred Dairy Shorthorn - £100
S4 Heifer Championship - Champion Rosette & Reserve Champion Rosette. (Heifer in milk- Class 6)
S5 Junior Championship - Champion Rosette & Reserve Champion Rosette. (Maiden heifer–Class 5)
S6 Premier Exhibitor Award - (Points from class placings 1st=10, 2nd=9, 3rd=8, 4th=7, 5th=6, 6th=5, 7th=4, 8th=3, 9th=2, 10th=1)

JERSEY

All animals must be entered in the Herd Book of the Jersey Cattle Society of the United Kingdom or the Irish Jersey Cattle Society.

The Jersey Cattle Society of the United Kingdom Showing Rules (latest version) will apply to all exhibitors and exhibits in the Jersey section.

CLASS

9 **HEIFER,** born on or after 1st June 2025
10 **HEIFER,** in calf
11 **HEIFER**, in milk, must have calved by three years of age.
12 **JUNIOR COW,** in milk, in second lactation, must have calved by 4 years of age.
13 **SENIOR COW,** in milk, in third lactation
14 **SENIOR COW,** in milk in fourth or later lactation

SPECIALS

S7 Breed Championship - Champion £250; Reserve £150, Honorable Mention.
S8 Best Exhibitor Bred Jersey - £100
S9 Heifer Championship - Champion Rosette & Reserve Champion Rosette (Heifer in milk – Class 11)
S10 Junior Championship - Champion Rosette & Reserve Champion Rosette. (Heifer or in calf heifer – Class 9 & 10)
S11 Premier Exhibitor Award - (Points from class placings 1st=10, 2nd=9, 3rd=8,4th=7,5th=6,6th=5,7th=4,8th=3,9th=2,10th=1)

The Jersey Cattle Society will present the following cups:

WYCHCROSS TROPHY - for the Champion Jersey**.**

ROBERT WHELDON CUP - for the Exhibitor Bred Champion Jersey**.**

AYRSHIRE

All animals must be entered in the Herd Book of the Ayrshire Cattle Society of Great Britain & Ireland and be at least 51% Ayrshire blood. If black and white in colour animals must be registered in the Herd Book's full pedigree Ayrshire section and be 100% Ayrshire blood.

The Ayrshire Cattle Society Constitution & Rules (latest version) will apply to all exhibitors and exhibits in the Ayrshire section.

CLASS

15 **HEIFER,** born on or after 1st June 2025
16 **HEIFER,** in calf
17 **HEIFER,** in milk, must have calved by three years of age
18 **COW,** in milk, in second lactation
19 **COW,** in milk, in third or later lactation

SPECIALS

S12 Breed Championship - Champion £250; Reserve £150, Honorable Mention.
S13 Best Exhibitor Bred Ayrshire - £100
S14 Heifer Championship - Champion Rosette & Reserve Champion Rosette. (Heifer in milk – Class 17)
S15 Junior Championship - Champion Rosette & Reserve Champion Rosette. (heifer – Class 15 & 16)
S16 Premier Exhibitor Award - (Points from class placings 1st = 10, 2nd = 9, 3rd = 8, 4th = 7, 5th = 6, 6th = 5, 7th = 4, 8th = 3, 9th = 2, 10th = 1)

The Winter Fair is a qualifying show for the S D Gibson Shield Competition.

HOLSTEIN

All animals must be entered in the Herd Book of Holstein UK or classes B and C of the Supplementary Register or the equivalent herd book in the country of the animal's residence, or the Irish Holstein Friesian Association.

The Holstein UK Bylaws and Showing Rules (latest version) will apply to all exhibitors and exhibits in the Holstein section.

CLASS

20 **HEIFER**, born 1st March 2026 to 31st August 2026
21 **HEIFER**, born 1st September 2025 to 28th February 2026
22 **HEIFER,** not in milk, born 1st December 2024 to 31st August 2025
23 **Milking Yearling,** born 1st November 2024 to 28 February 2025
24 **JUNIOR,** 2 year old, in milk, born 1st June 2024 to 31 October 2024
25 **SENIOR,** 2 year old, in milk, born 1st December 2023 to 31 May 2024
26 **JUNIOR,** 3 year old, in milk, born 1st June 2023 to 30th November 2023
27 **SENIOR,** 3 year old, in milk, born 1st December 2022 to 31st May 2023
28 Four year old, in milk, born 1st December 2021 to 30th November 2022
29 Five year old, in milk, born 1st December 2020 to 30th November 2021
30 **MATURE COW,** born on or before 30th November 2020

SPECIALS

S17 Breed Championship - Champion £250; Reserve £150, Honorable Mention.
S18 Best Exhibitor Bred Holstein - £100
S19 Best Red & White Holstein - £100 (includes best red and white animal in each of the Holstein classes).
S20 Intermediate Championship - Champion Rosette & Reserve Champion Rosette. (Heifer in milk – Class 23, 24, 25 & 26). if the winner is out of class 25, the highest placed heifer out of classes 23 24 & 25 to come forward to the Interbreed Championship
S21 Junior Championship - Champion Rosette & Reserve Champion Rosette. (Heifer Classes 20, 21 & 22)
S22 Premier Exhibitor Award - (Points from class placings 1st=10, 2nd=9, 3rd=8, 4th=7, 5th=6, 6th=5, 7th=4, 8th=3, 9th=2, 10th=1)

INTERBREED CHAMPIONSHIPS

S23 Inter Breed Championship - Supreme Inter Breed Champion £500 & Crystal Bowl; Reserve Inter Breed Champion £300; Honourable Mention £200; A further £150 will be paid to the Inter Breed Champion if exhibitor bred

S24 Inter breed Heifer Championship - Heifer Champion - Rosette & Crystal Bowl; Reserve Heifer Champion - Rosette; Honorable Mention - Rosette

S25 Inter breed Junior Championship - Junior Champion - Rosette & Crystal Bowl; Reserve Junior Champion - Rosette; Honorable Mention – Rosette

SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS

SHOW HERD NUMBER: S09001

Livestock Arrivals: Balmoral Park will only be open for the arrival of cattle as follows:

Tuesday 8 December from 4.00 pm to 10:00 pm
Wednesday 9 December from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm

ENTRIES

Intending exhibitors are requested to carefully read the following regulations and instructions and only lodge entries if they are prepared to comply strictly with them.

1. Entries must be made online at www.winterfair.org.uk. Telephone entries are not possible.

2. All electronic entries shall be deemed to be a full acceptance of the Regulations and Instructions.

3. Exhibitors shall familiarise themselves with the various breed society rules which apply to their breed section as they relate to showing, particularly regarding eligibility to enter, exhibitor-bred status and show ring ethics.

4. Cattle can only be entered in **one** class.

5. No entry will be accepted unless it has been received online on or before the closing date – **Friday 13 November 2026 (5.00 pm).** Late entries will not be accepted**.**

6. All exhibits must be bona fide the property of the exhibitor at the close of entry.

7. No Society staff member is permitted to fill in the entry form for an intending exhibitor.

8. A condition of entry is that all exhibitors names and addresses will be printed in the catalogue.

9. The Council reserves to itself the right to reject any entry without assigning any reason. In the event of the Council being unable to accept an entry, notice will be given not later than 6 days after the final closing of the entries, and the fees lodged will be refunded, or in any case of their being insufficient entries in a class, the Council will withdraw the class from competition and return the entry fees.

10. Each exhibitor or agent must be prepared to verify every statement contained in the entry form in any manner the Council may require

RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXHIBITORS AND THEIR STOCK ATTENDANTS

11. Exhibitors or their stock attendants must be competent and take total responsibility of their stock at all times whilst on the showground. All persons in charge of exhibits will be required to parade or exhibit the animals in their charge at times as directed by the stewards of the show. Stock attendants must be in attendance at least a quarter of an hour before the time appointed for exhibiting the animals under their charge in the Show Ring. No stock attendants shall be allowed to lead more than one animal at a time in the judging ring.

12. Exhibitors will be held responsible for the behaviour of their stock attendants and for the consequences of any misconduct.

13. **Dress**. Exhibitors are requested to ensure that official breed society uniforms are worn by all persons attending their animals in the Show ring.

14. All exhibits and persons in charge of them will be subject to the rules and regulations of the show. The Council delegates full power to the stewards to enforce all the show conditions and regulations.

15. Except in the case of death or personal injury caused by negligence of the show, its servants or agents, the Show will not be responsible for death, injury, disease, damage or loss caused to any exhibitor or to his or her servant or agent or to any animal, article, plant, machinery or thing of whatever nature brought onto the showground.

16. The Exhibitor shall indemnify the show against, and take full responsibility for all claims, damages and expenses whatsoever in any way arising out of the presence of the exhibitor, his servants, agents, exhibits, vehicles or equipment on the showground.

17. Owners of stock are reminded that any act or disobedience or discourtesy to the officials of the show on the part of the owner, or attendant will debar the owner's exhibit or exhibits from adjudication or from taking a prize. The Society's Council reserves the power to remove from the Show, any owner or attendant, together with the exhibit or exhibits concerned. Penalties as laid down in regulation 18 shall apply.

18. Any infringement of any of these regulations or conditions will subject the exhibitor to a fine of £50, and to the forfeiture, by order of the Show, of any prize to which he may be entitled (in addition to all other consequences attaching to such infringement).

19. Please note that CCTV is in operation.

COMPETENCE OF EXHIBITORS

20. All exhibitors must have the physical ability, relevant experience and be competent to handle the animal in their charge at all times. Handlers must be in good health and properly trained in safe work methods.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

21. Exhibitors are reminded that they must conform to the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and other relevant Health and Safety legislation.

22. Smoking is prohibited in the stock lines and all buildings. Environmental Health Officers and Trading Standard Officers will be in attendance at the show and have the authority to prosecute as appropriate.

23. No oil, gas or electric cooking equipment of any description must be used in the Cattle marquee. Fridges, toasters etc are also not allowed. An exhibitors porta cabin is available with electrical points where food can be heated and anyone found offending, will be dealt with in accordance with Regulation 18.

24. All electrical equipment being used on the Showground must have a current PAT test certificate. All electrical equipment will be checked on arrival and if no PAT test certificate presented the appliance will be tested. Equipment which fails the PAT test will be marked accordingly and must be removed from the premises.

25. All gas appliances coming onto site must be covered by a gas safety cert carried out by a gas safe registered engineer.

26. Fitting may only take place in the allocated areas. Designated preparation stalls must be used. The use of electrical appliances with long leads which traverse the floor of the cattle marquee is prohibited. Extension leads may only be used uncoiled.

27. Livestock exhibitors are reminded that the show environment can be upsetting for livestock, even those of normally placid temperament. Livestock with unstable or aggressive temperament should not be brought to the Showground. Any animal considered to be in a dangerous or infuriated state will not be admitted and should any animal, in the opinion of the stewards, become dangerous in the Showgrounds, it must be removed immediately, or if removal be impracticable or attended with risk, it shall be destroyed.

28. Use of petrol generators in strictly prohibited.

ENTRY WRISTBANDS/TICKETS

29. All exhibitors will receive one admission wrist band, which is not transferable, per two stalls booked subject to a maximum of 4 wrist bands. Wristbands must be worn at all times.

    Wristbands or tickets purchased are non-transferable and non-refundable.

AMALGAMATION/DIVISION OF CLASSES

30. A class with less than 4 entries will, where possible, be amalgamated with the nearest similar or relevant class. If there are too many entries in any one class, the class may be divided. Where a class is divided, similar prize money will be paid in each division.

STALLING OF LIVESTOCK

31. Exhibitors must ensure that cattle are placed in the stalls allocated to them. The movement of stall positions without the chief cattle steward's consent can lead to disqualification.

32. Stall dimensions – 1.4m x 3m. Stalls must not extend beyond 3m.

ADVERTISING

33. Placards or advertising material will be permitted to be placed over animal's stalls but only in reference to animals exhibited and herd represented. It is not permitted to display rosettes/awards won at previous shows.

FODDER

34. The Show will provide the initial straw bedding for all stock. Exhibitors will be responsible for feeding their own livestock.

MILKING

35. Milking facilities will be available during the Show. Milk produced becomes the property of the Society and no direct payment will be made to exhibitors.

ARRIVAL OF ANIMALS

36. The Showground will only be open for the arrival of cattle as follows:

    Tuesday 8 December from 4.00 pm to 10:00 pm
    Wednesday 9 December from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm

    Arrival outside the above times will result in refusal of admission to the Showgrounds.

37. All cattle must enter the Showgrounds via Gate 1 (Halftown Road). Livestock must not arrive before the stated times.

DEPARTURE OF ANIMALS

38. Cattle will be permitted to leave Balmoral Park after 4.15 pm on Thursday 10 December 2026. Cattle should depart via gate F and gate 6 on Bog Road to avoid delays with show traffic.

NOTIFICATION OF CALVING

39. Animals entered in in-milk classes may be transferred to the appropriate in-calf classes if they are uncalved at time of judging. Animals entered in in-calf classes may be transferred to the appropriate in-milk classes if they have calved at time of judging. Exhibitors are responsible for drawing the Society's attention to this requirement where it arises.

ANIMAL WELFARE/ MALPRACTICES

40. The RUAS expects all exhibitors to observe best practice at all times.

41. No artificial device, substance or technique whatever may be adopted for the purpose of interfering with the udders of cattle. No cows or heifers presented in the judging ring may have sealed teats, and the RUAS reserves the right to scan the udder of any cow or heifer entered. Any exhibitor found infringing this regulation may be disqualified from exhibiting at the Show.

42. If it shall be proved to the satisfaction of the stewards or show that an exhibitor or competitor has knowingly signed an incorrect certificate, or knowingly given an incorrect pedigree of any animal, or brought forward an animal whose ear number does not correspond to that on the entry form, or has attempted to enter any animal or other exhibit or to obtain a prize by any other unfair means at this or any other Agricultural Society's shows, or is under exclusion from any Breed Society for fraudulent practice, the Show may in its absolute discretion cancel all awards made to such exhibitor or competitor, to disqualify him or her from

exhibiting or competing at future Shows of the Company, and to inform other Agricultural Associations of their action in this respect.

43. The Society condemns the use of prohibited or unlicensed drugs in livestock production and reserves the right to take whatever samples it considers necessary for analyses. Should, subsequently a trace of any prohibited or unlicensed drug be found penalties will be applied in line with regulation 28 contained in the regulations and instructions to exhibitors. Furthermore, since such positive findings may be in contravention of the Food Safety [Northern Ireland] Order 1991 and its subordinate legislation the results will be reported to the Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs. All animals entered at the show must remain within the event area during their stay at the show.

VETERINARY EXAMINATIONS

44. Where the judges are in doubt, as to age or soundness, or where the Stewards may consider it necessary, the decision of a Veterinary Officer in such cases shall be final and conclusive. Should it be against the animal to which a prize has been awarded, such animals and/or exhibitor shall be disqualified from receiving such prize.

45. Exhibitors shall be liable to pay for all drugs used by the veterinary officers in the treatment of their animals**.** It is a condition of entry that the veterinary officers may on their own authority give such emergency treatment as they may consider appropriate in the event that the owner or his representative cannot be found.

DISEASED ANIMALS

46. Exhibitors are hereby warned against bringing any diseased animal into the Show premises and, if under any circumstances this regulation be violated, the exhibitor of the diseased animal will be solely responsible for any claims that may arise for damage or loss to other exhibitors or any other persons, and the Council holds itself free from liability in such cases. Should any animal manifest symptoms of disease during the Show, it must be removed immediately from the premises, on an order to that effect by the Chief Executive, or by a senior member of the staff, or by a veterinary surgeon appointed by the Society.

RINGWORM

47. Exhibitors are specially cautioned not to send to the show animals which are suffering from ringworm in any stage. Any animal found to be so affected will, on the certificate of the veterinary officers, be disqualified from competition and removed from the Show, and will subject the exhibitor to a fine not exceeding £50 in each case.

OBJECTIONS

48. Any Exhibitor wishing to lodge an objection, having reference to Livestock exhibited at this show, must make the same in writing on a form to be obtained from the RUAS Office, and deposit the sum of £20. Any objection must be made within seven days of the show and will be considered at the next meeting of the Council. If, on investigation, the objection is not sustained the sum thus deposited shall, be forfeited to the funds of the Show. If the objection is sustained the sum lodged will be refunded.

49. The Council reserves the right of determining all disputed cases etc., and the decision of the Council shall be final in all respects.

ADJUDICATION OF PRIZES

50. No person shall in any way communicate with a judge engaged in adjudication without the sanction of the steward in attendance. If an attendant infringes this regulation and instruction, he shall be removed immediately from the charge of the exhibit, and another attendant substituted by the stewards, at a cost of £20 per hour to the exhibitor. Any exhibitor who enters the space in which adjudication is proceeding may be disqualified from receiving a prize.

51. No marks which might indicate the ownership of stock whilst being exhibited for prizes will be permitted, nor will covers be allowed on animals during show hours without special permission from the stewards.

JUDGES

52. If, for any reason, a judge is unable to attend the show or is more than 30 minutes late, the Show reserves the right to appoint a replacement. Every effort will be made to inform exhibitors of the change.

53. The judge shall not award a prize in any of the classes where sufficient merit does not appear.

54. The judge shall not attempt to draw the udders of dry cattle, and if milking cows are to be handled, the judge shall wash and disinfect his/her hands before and after drawing each or any animal.

55. The judge will be provided with a book specifying the classes to be adjudicated on, and the number of prizes to be awarded. The judge is particularly requested not to apply for any further information respecting exhibits under their adjudication or examination, except in regard to age.

56. The decision of the judges shall in all cases be final, except where misrepresentation or breach of the regulations and instructions is discovered.

57. Immediately after judging each class the judge is to sign the Judges book, noting any disqualifications.

PAYMENT OF PRIZES

58. Prize money will be paid (except where further qualification of an animal is required) through the Engage Portal. You will receive an email when you can claim your prize as soon as possible after the Show.

PENALITIES

59. In case it shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Council that the owner of an animal exhibited, or any person in his employment, or under his control, has been guilty of any violation of the regulations and instructions, had made a false statement in the entry form or substituted another animal for that described in the entry form, has placed an animal in a stall, by day or night, other than that to which he is entitled, or has been guilty of any practice calculated to deceive or mislead, or to secure an unfair advantage, such exhibitor shall forfeit all prizes awarded to him at the Show, together with all fees paid by him, and his animal or animals shall be liable to be removed forthwith from Balmoral Park, and such owner shall be liable to be prevented from competing at this or any further show of the Society.

INTERPRETATION OF REGULATIONS

60. The Show reserves to itself the sole and absolute right to interpret these or any other prescribed conditions and regulations, or prize sheets, and to settle arbitrarily and determine all matters, questions or difference in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incident to the show. Also to refuse and to cancel any entries, disqualify exhibitors, prohibit exhibition of entries, vary or cancel awards of prizes or reserve numbers, and relax conditions, as the Show may deem expedient.

BIO SECURITY

61. Gathering animals together from many farms in different areas of the country has the potential to spread animal disease. It is the responsibility of every exhibitor to reduce this risk to a minimum and thus to protect his/her own livestock and that of other farmers. No animal under DAERA restriction, or showing signs or symptoms of any disease, must be brought to a Show.

62. Vehicles used to transport any animals to the Show must be cleansed and disinfected before leaving your farm, with special attention being paid to the underside and wheel arches. Any equipment brought to the Show should also be cleansed and disinfected with a DAERA approved disinfectant.

63. Clean protective clothing and footwear should be worn when handling animals.

64. If bedding is to be used at the Show, it should be fresh and clean. Contaminated bedding should not be removed from the transport vehicle at the Show grounds.

65. Contact between animals while at the Show should be kept to a minimum.

66. Prior to leaving the Showgrounds, or immediately on return home, protective clothing and footwear should be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. Vehicles used to transport animals should be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected with special attention being paid to the underside and wheel arches.

67. Any clinical signs of disease occurring in animals that have been at the Show, during the following two to three weeks, must be reported to the Show operators. In the case of notifiable diseases, your local DAERA office should also be notified.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Procedures for movement of cattle are listed in the Show Guidance for exhibitors. A copy can be downloaded from the DAERA website.

PLEASE NOTE ALL MOVEMENT OF ANIMALS SHOULD BE COMPLETED USING NIFAIS ONLINE.

To be eligible to compete at the Winter Fair 2026, all cattle entries must be vaccinated again Bluetongue virus (BTV-3).

Bluevac 3: Cattle can start vaccination at 2 months old, be revaccinated 3 weeks later, and will be immune 3 weeks after that.
Bultavo 3: Cattle can be vaccinated at 1 month old in naïve animals*, revaccinated 3 weeks later, and will be immune 3 weeks after that.
Syvazul BTV3: Cattle can be vaccinated at 2 months old in naïve calves/3 months from immune dams, revaccinated 3 weeks later, and will be immune 3 weeks after that.

Exhibitors should consult with their vet to confirm how long their Bluetongue vaccination remains valid.

Please note: Exhibitors with animals in a restricted zone **must comply** with the movement requirements for movement out of a restriction zone to the Show.

Advice can be obtained from the DAERA website or from your local DAERA Direct office.

Movement to the Show and Testing of Animals: - Only animals free from disease restrictions, including Tuberculosis, Brucellosis, Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD) and Bluetongue (herd or individual animal restrictions) may be permitted to the Show.

Testing for Bovine Viral Diarrhoea is required. Pre-movement testing for Bovine Brucellosis is no longer required for movement to shows.

To minimize the risk of other livestock, exhibitors are encouraged to have Show animals tested for Tuberculosis by their Private Veterinary Practitioner in the 30 days beforehand.

To minimise the risk to their own herd, exhibitors are encouraged to quarantine show animals and have them tested for Tuberculosis by their Private Veterinary Practitioner at least 42 days after their last appearance at a show and before re-integration to the main herd.

Procedures for movement of cattle are listed in the Show Guidance for exhibitors. A copy can be downloaded from the DAERA website.

Following progress in BVD eradication, and the growing awareness of animal health export requirements, RUAS have decided to increase BVD animal health status requirements for Northern Ireland herds. The main reason for this decision is to promote animal health and continue to be an all-inclusive event. (ROI herds have these standards certified on entry through Intra Community Health Certification). To avoid the additional expenses to Northern Ireland exhibitors of formal certification, DAERA assist RUAS by assessing and screening Northern Ireland exhibitors for eligibility.

To satisfy the requirements of higher BVD health standards, RUAS are requesting that Northern Ireland herd exhibitors can satisfy that their herd meets the standards of a Low Risk BVD herd.

The Requirements for herd clearance are as follows.

- Within 30 days of the Show all animals within the herd **and any associated herds** must have a known BVD negative status i.e., a status of BVDN or INDNEG. (Calves under 30 days of age on the day of the show are exempt). BVD inconclusive animals are not permitted. Any animal/s with the status BVDU (unknown) or no recorded status will need to be tested negative prior to the event. Note that imported animals may require testing if their BVD status cannot be validated.
- The herd **and any associated herds** must not have had any BVD positive animals in the 18 months prior to the show. If a BVD animal has been detected the herd cannot achieve low risk status until 18 months after the removal of this animal.

As BVD testing can take time, potential exhibitors should review their own herd statuses as early as possible and to take remedial action as required. Herd keepers who are unsure of the BVD status of animals within their herd can check this by requesting an up-to-date herd list from their local DAERA Direct office **with BVD statuses shown. This will allow you to check in advance if you need to have any animals BVD tested.**

DAERA will check the eligibility of all herds (and associated herds) applying to exhibit. Eligible herds will receive an approval letter from DAERA by email. This letter must be presented to RUAS to gain entry to the show grounds.

If, following initial checks, a herd is not eligible, the keeper will be notified. To become eligible, they will need to satisfy the BVD requirements specified above**. All further testing must be completed with results available a minimum of one week prior to show commencement to make the cutoff for herd eligibility assessment.**

Note: by entering the show you permit DAERA to run herd BVD eligibility reports and to share eligibility information with RUAS.

Cattle Re-exported Directly from a Show.

Cattle being re-exported to RoI will need to be accompanied by:

- An MC2L (produced by the local DAERA Direct Office);
- The passport (which accompanied the animal to the Show);
- Their original Health Certification suitably endorsed by the Veterinarian responsible for the Show;
- A Non-Co-minglement Certificate which will be issued by the Veterinarian responsible for the Show.



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