



SUFFOLK SHEEP SOCIETY NATIONAL FLOCK COMPETITION 2026

Conditions of entry

It is necessary to offer the judge some way of keeping track of what they are seeing and giving them a benchmark to rank flocks by individual category being judged. This is also to give weighting towards what is important in a flock, the female stock. The scoring system is a “tool” for the judge to use and therefore points awarded will not be shared. Entrants are welcome to contact the judge after the winners have been notified, and the results of the winners posted.

Points weighting

Stock Ewes	scored out of 100
Ewe Lambs	scored out of 60
Stud Rams	scored out of 40
Total	available points 200

The judge has a total of 200 points available: a maximum of 100 points will be allocated to the Stock Ewes, 60 to the Ewe Lambs and 40 to the Stud Rams.

TROPHIES

Champion Flock	-	BRISTOL GOLD CUP & £500.00
Divisions:		
Flocks of 5 to 15	-	SUFFOLK SHEEP SOCIETY CUP
16 - 30	-	JOHN LONG PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
31-60	-	W E LLOYD PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
61-100	-	KEEBLE PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
101 Ewes and over	-	BROOKS PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Flock Ewes	-	BONNINGTON IN BLOOMSBURY PERPETUAL SALVER

Ewe Lambs	-	SAINSBURY PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Stud Rams	-	HOWARD PEEL PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Progeny Group	-	CHEBSEY CUP

Entry for the Progeny Class (Chebsey Cup) is optional, up to 50 points can be awarded but these points will not be included in the overall classification. Entrants must put forward, depending on flock size, several ewes sired by the same ram. These ewes must be a minimum of birth notified if Gimmers and registered if Aged Ewes, no more than 25% can be Gimmers and the rest two shear or over and the sire need not be still alive. Ear numbers of these females must be listed on the entry form. To make this award more inclusive, the need for 10 ewes has been changed to reflect flock size and the progeny numbers by class are listed in the table below.

5 to 15 Ewes	6 Ewes
16 to 30 Ewes	8 Ewes
31 to 60 Ewes	10 Ewes
61 to 100 Ewes	12 Ewes
101+ Ewes	14 Ewes

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

The competitions are restricted to registered flocks, and where flocks are divided into two or more units by the owner, these will be treated as one flock for the purpose of the Competitions.

On the entry form the competitor must state the total number of ewes mated or intended to be mated during the current year. Only shearing ewes intended for sale in the current autumn may be excluded. Any older ewes intended for sale must be included in the number entered and shown. All ewes in the flock must be shown along with one ewe lamb for every five ewes in the flock the previous year.

Rams which are both owned and used on any portion of the flock, including sale gimmers, must be shown. This includes shared rams. Rams not owned, and used only by AI, are not eligible. The names and registered numbers or ear numbers of the rams used in the flock must be listed on the entry form, also any rams owned but not used and any used by AI but not owned. Rams which cannot be shown on the competitor's farm will be viewed at the Judges' discretion and points awarded accordingly. If rams are subsequently proved to be missing from the Judges' inspection all awards are liable to be forfeited.

All ewes and rams must be the bona fide property of the competitor.

The flock must be shown untrimmed, in natural breeding condition.

A maximum of 200 points will be awarded on visual inspection - of these a maximum of 100 will be allocated to the flock ewes, 60 to the ewe lambs and 40 to the stud rams.

The Judges are empowered to withhold any cup or award if in their opinion the flocks entered are not of sufficient merit. In the event of there being less than two entries for any of the cups that competition may be cancelled, but the flocks entered will be judged in connection with the Championship.

The cup winner and reserve in each division will automatically compete for the Champion Challenge Cup.

All cups are offered as perpetual Challenge trophies and shall be held until the next competition; winners shall undertake to return all trophies to the Society as Council shall determine. All cups are insured by the Society.

Any competitor infringing these conditions or the regulations of the Society will be disqualified.

**CHAMPION FLOCK COMPETITION
THE BRISTOL GOLD CUP and £500.00
CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

The winning and reserve flock in each divisional Competition will compete for the Champion Challenge Cup, a perpetual trophy. A reserve flock, however, cannot be awarded the Champion Cup, unless the winning flock in the same competition has been or becomes disqualified. Further, a reserve flock cannot be awarded reserve for the Champion Cup unless the winning flock in the same competition has been awarded the Champion Cup.

If a competition does not take place in a division through lack of requisite number of entries, nevertheless, flocks already entered shall be eligible for the Championship.

1 engraved trophy or similar will be awarded to the owner of the Champion flock and the reserve Champion flock. The winner of the Champion Cup shall not be eligible for entry in the competition in the following year.

The owner of the Champion flock shall agree to have his flock on view to members of the Society on a date mutually agreed by the Winner and Council.

**ANNUAL EWE LAMB COMPETITION - FRANK SAINSBURY PERPETUAL
CHALLENGE CUP
ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

One ewe lamb must be shown for every five ewes put to the ram the previous year.

The ewe lambs must be the bona fide property of the competitor and the produce of his registered flock.

The ewe lambs must be shown untrimmed except for squaring the tails but, if the owner has exhibited ewe lambs at a Royal or any County Show in the current year, up to six may be shown trimmed.

PROGENY CLASS – CHEBSEY CUP ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Females entered in this class must be a minimum of birth notified if Gimmers and registered if aged ewes and can be made up from no more than 25% Gimmers and two shear and over ewes. The ear numbers of the females entered must be listed on the entry form. A group of females greater than the flock size entry numbers may be listed to allow competitors some flexibility in final selection. Ewes not listed will be eligible only at the Judges' discretion. The group of ewes must be penned separately for the Judges' inspection and then allowed loose with the rest of the flock. Up to 50 points are available in this class, these points are not included in the awards for the rest of the Competition. Points given in this section will not be disclosed and is only a "tool" for the judge to assist them when judging. Feedback following the announcement of the results of the judge's deliberation will be available directly with the judge.

Announcement of the winners of the National Flock competition

Following the disclosure from the judge to the Society, as to their eventual winners and recipients of awards of each category, each winner will be contacted by the Society to let them know of their success. Following that, all entrants to the competition will then be emailed the final results of the competition including the recipients of the various awards. This will be by email and will be **prior** to any public announcements being made on social media and on the website. Certificates of merit in each category will also be included in the announcements.