Cattle Section

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 licence issued - Any queries should be addressed to DAERA.
3. Exhibitor numbers will be issued at Registration box on show day.
4, Due to Bio-Security Measures, Straw is Prohibited for use at Ballymena Show – sawdust may be allowed.
5. Cattle for Exhibition, showing signs of any kind of disease, will have to be removed by the Owner immediately.
6. Exhibitors must follow parking and all other instructions issued by stewards.
7. All cattle classes will be judged on Saturday 30th May 2026 commencing from 10.00am.
8. Entry Fees: CAAA Members £10; Non CAAA Members £12 (unless otherwise stated) - CATTLE ENTRIES CLOSE ON SATURDAY 16th May 2026.
9. Prize Money in Cattle Section 1st £20 2nd £15, 3rd £10 (except where otherwise stated).
10. Cattle exhibitors are requested to display the animal number allocated while in the judging ring so that they be easily identified by the viewing public.
11 All persons must sign the entry form as agreement to conform to the rules of the County Antrim Agricultural Association as organizers of Ballymena show.
12. It is the responsibility of exhibitors to ensure that appropriate Insurance cover is in place for the showing of his/her exhibits at the show.
13. Trophies are presented at the annual awards awards night being held on Saturday 14th November in Tullyglass Hotel.
14. Snaffles must be worn by all cattle over one year old
15. Prize money will be issued to the bank account given online
16. All cattle entered for this show must be from OFFICIALLY TUBERCULOSIS FREE HERDS and each animal must be accompanied by a print out of the electronic movement report. ANIMALS WILL BE REFUSED ENTRY IF NOT ACCOMPANIED BY THE CORRECT PAPERWORK. Pre movement testing for Bovine Brucellosis is no longer required for movement to shows.

Only animals free from disease restrictions, including Tuberculosis, Brucellosis, Bluetongue and Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (herd or individual animal restrictions) may be permitted to move to a Show.

Bovine Tuberculosis Controls

To minimise the risk to 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.

Bovine Brucellosis Controls

Only those animals with BVDN or INDNEG status on NIFAIS (negative BVD status) can be moved into a “Show” herd. NIFAIS will block the movement of animals which don’t have BVDN or INDNEG status.

For imported animals resident in a NI herd, a BVDN or INDNEG status is required before the animal can be moved into a Show herd. Statuses can only be obtained where samples have been tested in laboratories approved under the NI scheme. AHWNI can attempt to obtain BVD statuses for animals that have been imported from the ROI, so owners of any such animals should contact AHWNI, allowing time for a test to be carried out should a BVD Negative result not be available.

In summary, only those animals with a BVD status of BVDN (negative) or INDNEG (indirect negative) can move into the Show Herd. Any animal with a NIFAIS status of BVDP, BVDI, BVDFEM, DAMPI, OFFPI or BVDU (unknown) status cannot be moved into the “Show” herd.

18. 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 - 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 - Danske Bank - 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 - George Glass Graham Edward Trailers - Jimmy Kernohan & Sons - Knox Electrical - MB Motors - Mckerville Neilly Solicitors - Portequip - R J Cherry & Son - Ross Companies - Stream Bio Energy Tully

PLATINUM LEVEL

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

HEALTH AND SAFETYTY AT WORK (NI) ORDER 1978

In compliance with the above Order County Antrim Agricultural Association has produced an Event Management Plan. This is to provide and maintain safe and healthy working conditions for its employees or other persons who have reason to be present on premises and grounds occupied by the Association during Ballymena Show.

Specific responsibility is placed on all exhibitors, trade, craft or stock, for their own personal safety, fellow exhibitors and all other persons (including the general

public) who have reason to be present. Exhibitors should acquaint themselves with the Rules and Regulations and Instructions to Exhibitors.
Exhibitors must adhere to all instructions given to them by the Stewards present and consult with the Section Chief Steward on any points relating to safety that may arise.
All livestock exhibitors must be deemed capable of handling any animal they are exhibiting.
Child Exhibitors must be accompanied by an adult. Any minors accompanying Exhibitors to the Show are the responsibility of the Exhibitor.
The completion of an entry form for Ballymena Show is deemed to be a full acceptance of an exhibitor of his intention to comply with all Regulations and Instructions as laid down under the Rules & Regulations of the Association.
Copies of the Event Management Plan can be obtained from the Secretary's Office at the entrance The Cattle Market

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. Entries can be completed online www.showingscene.com or all Entry Forms accurately completed and signed by the Exhibitor or Agent must be 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 abandon 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 affected 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. Failure to send same for exhibition or competition will also mean that any entry fees paid will be forfeited.
10. Due to Bio-Security measures, STRAW IS PROHIBITED for use at Ballymena Show.
11. Any minors accompanying Exhibitors to the Show are the responsibility of the Exhibitor. Child Exhibitors must be accompanied by an adult.
12. Should a judge encounter an animal or animals which he/she has bred, owned or in which he has had any interest, a request may be made to the chief steward of that section to appoint another suitable person to place such animals. If a chief steward is aware of such a situation, he should notify the judge.

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 Ballymena Show, 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.
30/05/2026 10:30

Dairy Sections

All rosettes must be removed before entering judging rings
Ayrshires, Holsteins and Coloured Dairy
Production and Inspection Classes (88,98 and 106) Points Allocation
a) milk - 1 point for each 100kg
b) fat protein - 1 point for each 10kg
c) maximum of 100 points for general conformation. An addition not exceeding 15% of the award under a) may be made when the lactation is that of a heifer, and commenced before she reached three years of age
Official Production Certificate of last lactation must be included with the entry form or emailed to secretary@ballymenashow.co.uk
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Colin Laird (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Belted Galloway

Section sponsored by WR Kennedy & Co
See also classes 1 and 2 - Junior and Open Pair of Beef Animals
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Colm O'Neill (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Overall Beef Championship

overall beef championship
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Gary Henderson (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Commercial Cattle

Kindly sponsored by James Kernohan & Sons and Donnelly & Taggart - Donnelly Group
See also classes 1 and 2 - Junior & Open Pair of Beef Animals
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Trevor Shields (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Salers

Kindly sponsored by MB Motors and Stevensons Quarry
See also classes 1 and 2 - Junior & Open Pair of Beef Animals
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Gareth Henderson (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Galloway

Kindly sponsored by Donnelly and Taggart - Donnelly Group and TJ Hamill and Sons
See also classes 1 and 2 - Junior & Open Pair of Beef Animals
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Colm O'Neill (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Dexters

Kindly sponsored by The Mill Veterinary Clinic and McCurdy Fuels
See also classes 1 and 2 - Junior & Open Pair of Beef Animals
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Andrew Ewing (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Irish Moile

Kindly sponsored by Ravelglen Furniture and TJ Hamill Recycling
See also classes 1 and 2 - Junior & Open Pair of Beef Animals
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Andrew Ewing (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Charolais

Kindly sponsored by Portequip and HA McIlwrath

The AJC Lamont trophy will be awarded to the best Charolais Exhibit
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

George Nelson (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Any Other Continental Beef Breeds

Section kindly sponsored by Sam Kelly Lime Spreading and McCarroll Plant Hire
Includes Simmental, Blondes and British Blue Breeds.
See also classes 1 and 2 - junior beef and open pair
The Northern Constitution Trophy will be awarded to the best Simmental exhibit
The NI Simmental Cattle Breeders Club Cow Bell will be awarded to the best opposite sex from the Best Simmental exhibit
The NI Blonde Cattle Club trophy will be awarded to the best Blonde exhibit
The Smallcost Trophy will be awarded to the Best Blonde Junior Heifer exhibit
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

George Nelson (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Any Other Native and Traditional Beef Breeds

Includes Herefords and Aberdeen Angus. Also rare or re-established breeds that do not have their own section at Ballymena Show
see also classes 1 and 2 - junior beef and open pair
The Templeton Trophy will be awarded to the best Aberdeen Angus exhibit
The Hereford Trophy will be awarded to the best Irish Bred Hereford exhibit
The Newsletter Trophy will be awarded to the best Hereford exhibit
Aughnakealie Trophy will be awarded the the best native and traditional breed exhibit in the show
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Gareth Henderson (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Coloured Dairy including Jersey and Dairy Shorthorn

Kindly sponsored by Kersia
All exhibits must be pedigree and entered in the relevant societys Herd Book.
Exact age, colour markings and full pedigree must be given.
See also classes 86,87,88 (Junior, Group & Pair of Dairy Animals)
The Thompson Trophy will be awarded to the best pedigree Jersey exhibit
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Izzy Laird (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Ayrshires

Kindly sponsored by Dairy Herd Management and Kersia
The Ulster Ayrshire Cattle Club donate £50 to the prize fund for this section
Ayrshires: Animals entered must be registered in the appendices or fully pedigree section of the Ayrshire Herd Book, Ayrshire Hybrid or Red and White Sections of the Ayrshire Society Herd Book and be at least one half Ayrshire. If black and white in colour, animals must be registered in the Herd Books Full Pedigree Ayrshire Section.
See also classes 86,87,88 (Junior, Group & Pair of Dairy Animals)
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

John Liggett (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Dairy Young Handlers - ENTER ON SHOW DAY

Kindly sponsored by Masons Animal Feeds, Lakeland Dairies & John Thompson & Sons Ltd
Prize money = 1st £20, 2nd £15, 3rd £10, 4th £5, 5th £5, 6th £5, 7th £5, 8th £5,9th £5.
Entry free - Entry forms to be completed and signed on show day but will not be catalogued
To be judged at the cattle rings at 10am
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Colin Laird (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Overall Dairy Championship

no entry required
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Colin Laird (Judge)

Number	Name	Description

Beef Shorthorn

Kindly sponsored by James Kernohan & Son Ltd.
Classes may be amalgamated, divided or cancelled by organising committee - see rule 8.
See also classes 1 and 2- Junior & Open Pair of Beef Animals
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Gareth Henderson (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
44	Senior bull born before 1st January 2025	
45	Junior bull born on or after 1st January 2025 but on or before 31st August 2025	
46	Cow any age in calf or having had a calf in the last twelve months	
47	Heifer born in 2024	
48	Heifer born between 1st January 2025 but on or before 31st August 2025	
49	Calf born on or after 1st September 2025 (class may be split depending on numbers)	
50	Pair of animals	The Beef Shorthorn Pair Award will be presented to the winner of this class on show day Animals must be the property of one exhibitor
51	Young Handlers	cup to be presented to winner
52	Champion Beef Shorthorn	No entry required - 1st and 2nd prize winners of classes 44 - 49 qualify for this class Prize money Champion £20 and Res champion £10 The Bab McQueen Trophy will be awarded to the winner of this class

Beef Section

Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Gary Henderson (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
SP 2	NISA Pedigree Junior Bull Championship 2026	For the best Junior Bull born on or after 1st January 2025 NISA Pedigree Junior Bull Championship Final is being held this year at Clogher Valley Show on 29th July 2026. All exhibitors wishing to qualify for this Championship must enter the name of their animal(s) and exhibitor details, in their respective class at the qualifying Shows. Only the 1st & 2nd placed exhibits in Junior Bull Classes at Ballymena Show are eligible to go forward to the NISA Pedigree Junior Bull qualifier that day. To maximise attendance of qualified exhibits at the Championship Final, those who qualify must confirm their intention to be present at Clogher Valley Show on 29th 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. Animals cannot qualify at Clogher Valley Show for the Championship. NISA will present rosettes to the exhibitors for both qualifying animals at each qualifying show and Champion & Reserve Champion Rosettes at the Final Prize money at the Final: 1st £300 2nd £200 3rd £100 4th £50 Prize money will be forwarded to the named exhibitor following the Final. It is important that all those who qualify register their intention to attend the Final with the NISA administrator. The Qualifying Shows for the Bank of Ireland/NISA Junior Bull Championship are: - Ballymena, Ballymoney, Lurgan, Armagh, Saintfield, Newry, Omagh, Castlewellan, Limavady, and Antrim.

Limousin

Kindly sponsored by Rainey & Gregg, McKeown Accountants and Stevenson Quarries
See also classes 1 and 2 - junior and open pair of beef animals
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Trevor Shields (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
SP 3	Limousin Show Team of the Year	The N.I. Limousin Cattle Club presents the following awards annually, to exhibitors, who have shown their animals in Limousin classes, at local shows, throughout the summer months. Ballymena Show is a qualifying show for these awards and the points for each award will be administered by the NILCC. In the event of a tie, the NILCC may, at their discretion, consider additional criteria for each award and their decision will be final. “Limousin Show Team of the Year” kindly sponsored by Danske Bank - Points will be awarded for class placements as follows, 1st = 3 points, 2nd = 2 points and 3rd = 1 point.
SP 4	Limousin Show Champion of the Year	The N.I. Limousin Cattle Club presents the following awards annually, to exhibitors, who have shown their animals in Limousin classes, at local shows, throughout the summer months. Ballymena Show is a qualifying show for these awards and the points for each award will be administered by the NILCC. In the event of a tie, the NILCC may, at their discretion, consider additional criteria for each award and their decision will be final. “Limousin Show Champion of the Year” - Points will be awarded to animals achieving Limousin Champion and Limousin Reserve Champion.
SP 5	The Gordon Bull	The N.I. Limousin Cattle Club presents the following awards annually, to exhibitors, who have shown their animals in Limousin classes, at local shows, throughout the summer months. Ballymena Show is a qualifying show for these awards and the points for each award will be administered by the NILCC. In the event of a tie, the NILCC may, at their discretion, consider additional criteria for each award and their decision is final. “The Gordon Bull” - Points will be awarded to exhibitors achieving Limousin Champion and Limousin Reserve Champion

Holsteins

Kindly sponsored by Kersia, Dairy Herd Management and A Kennedy Plant & Fencing
All exhibitors should wear the breeds show outfit whilst in the judging ring. All entries to be entered in the Holstein UK Herd Book proper or in classes B or C of the Supplementary Register. All classes are open to both black and white and red and white registered animals.

Holstein NI provide an award to the exhibitor of the Champion Holstein presented at their AGM. Points are also allocated to exhibitors towards the Bibby Salver trophy.
See also classes 86,87,88 (Junior, Group & Pair of Dairy Animals)
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Roy Cromie (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
SP 9	Holstein UK Rosettes	Holstein Uk offers rosettes to the Champion, Reserve Champion, Best Exhibitor Bred, Junior Champion and Best Udder in Show

Beef Young Handlers - enter on show day

Kindly sponsored by McCarroll McConnell and John Thompson & Sons Ltd
Prize money = 1st £20, 2nd £15, 3rd £10, 4th £5, 5th £5, 6th £5, 7th £5, 8th £5, 9th £5
Kindly sponsored by W.R. Kennedy & Co
Entry free - Entry forms to be completed and signed on show day but will not be catalogued
Animals must be 30 months or under on show day
It is expected that the young handler is experienced in handling the animal prior to the show.
Owners of livestock must supervise from a safe distance
Ring: cattle ring

Judges

Erin Nelson (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
SP11	Dunbia/Nisa Beef Young Handlers Championships 2026	Beef Young Handler – age 12 – 15. Beef Young Handler – age 16 – 18. Age as of 1st May in current year. Animals to be 12 months or under on 1st May, in current year. The Dunbia / NISA Beef Young Handler Championship is being held this year at Limavady Show on Saturday 18th July 2026. All exhibitors wishing to qualify for this Championship Final must enter the name of their animal(s) and exhibitor details, at the qualifying Show. It is important that the date of birth, contact details (phone number and/or email address). and parent/guardian details, where these differ from the exhibitor details are all available. The qualified exhibitors will be the top three Young Handlers in each age group of the Dunbia / NISA Beef young handler class at each qualifying show. Parents/Guardians are requested to ensure that exhibitors are competent and capable of handling the animal. One adult is welcome to enter the ring to ensure safety. In these classes the appearance and skill of the exhibitor will be considered. Rosettes will be awarded to each qualified Young Handler. Champion & Reserve Rosettes will be awarded at the final. Prize Money at the final: 1st £100 2nd £75 3rd £50 The Qualifying Shows for the Dunbia/NISA Beef Young Handler are: Ballymena, Ballymoney, Lurgan, Armagh, Saintfield, Newry, Omagh, and Limavady. Ballymena Show requires all exhibitors intending to put forward an animal for use in the Young Handler section to already have the animal entered and forward in a previous class at the Show.