

Staffordshire Young Farmers Clubs

Action Press

The YFC Centre, County Showground, Weston Road, Stafford, ST18 0BD

Tel: 01785 248645 Email: countyoffice@staffsyoungfarmers.org.uk

Normal Office Opening Hours: Mon—Thurs—9am—3.30pm, Fri 10am—1pm

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Enclosures

(for secretaries):

- AGM Trophies Recall
- Health & Safety Training Invite
- Safeguarding Training Evening Invite
- Club Programme and Press Release Training Invite
- Club Leaders and Presidents Night Invite
- Oxford Farming Conference Flyer
- Insurance guidance for holding a bonfire
- NFU Insurance Schedule
- CLUB TICKETS FOR THE QUEENS AWARD

Next Action Press Dates:

Thurs 12th Oct

Thurs 16th Nov

*Thurs 7th Dec

(*last one for 2017)

KEEP SENDING OVER YOUR CLUB DATES FOR THIS YEAR AND NEXT, CLUB EVENTS DETAILS, LET US KNOW IF YOU WANT ANYTHING SENDING AROUND THE COUNTY OR FURTHER AFIELD! WE ARE ONLY AN EMAIL "PING" AWAY!



Deadlines & Reminders

What	Deadline	To Note
David Paliy Award	OVERDUE	LEEK, LICHFIELD, STONE, UTTOXETER AND WATERHOUSES—YOU ALL RAISED MONEY FOR CHARITY IN 2016/17—PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR FORMS ASAP
Club Officers Training Weekend Away	02.10.17	Book your place on this year's weekend away! Don't miss out!
Go Karting Competition Entries	06.10.17	Let us know how many teams you would like!
Understanding Your YFC Role (Leaders, Presidents, Advisory, Trustees)	09.10.17	
Programme & Press Release Training, Safeguarding Training, Health & Safety Training—replies	20.10.17	
Public Speaking Day Competitions	09.10.17	Get involved in this brilliant day of competitions! #staffsyfcdoitbest
Club Treasurers Books for Club Efficiency Marking	13.10.17	Make sure your treasurer 16/17 knows about this!
Winter Outcake Information	01.12.17	Send over the latest news and updates from your club so we can share with everyone!



Club Treasurers

MEMBERSHIP FORMS 2017/18: Each club has a supply of pre-printed forms and blank forms as well as Parental Consent Forms which must also be completed at the point of the member joining and retained by your Club Safeguarding Officer who will attend regular meetings. No forms will be processed without confirmation of a Consent Form being completed. Forms can also be downloaded from our website.

CLUB END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS: We require Club Accounts to be into the County Office for the inspection in accordance with the Club Efficiency Competition no later than Friday 13th October. Please make sure that your Club Treasurer from 2016/17 is aware, or that your new Club Treasurer brings over the books. No books = no marks!

Travel with YFC

Information for YFC Travel trips for 2018. To find out more about how to apply, check out the NFYFC Website link www.nfyfc.org.uk/yfctravel

YFC Travel Information Night—Monday 9th October, 8pm the YFC Centre, County Showground, Stafford. Come along and find out more about the YFC Travel opportunities available for 2018 and receive first class help from past travellers to complete your application



Competitions Committee News

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Date of the next Meeting: Thursday 23rd November, 8pm
Joint Chairmen: Jake Manning & Johnny Wilson

If a Club does not notify the Office of their Intention to withdraw from a County Competition within 7 days of the date of that competition or fails to turn up on the day of the competition, 6 points will be deducted, and a £10 fine will be imposed (as agreed at the Executive Meeting held on 4th April, 1991). In addition to this, if a competition falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the YFC Office should be notified by the Friday of the previous week by 12noon, ie 8 days notice. As agreed at the Competitions Meeting 26.11.15.

Take note of weekend competition deadlines for withdrawing —8 days!

REMEMBER ALL INFORMATION SHEETS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE UNDER THE DATE OF THE EVENT.



HAMMER CHALLENGE—Ashley YFC retained the hammer from Chase YFC after a brilliant “Its a Knockout” style challenge. They are now being challenged by Eccleshall YFC. Let us know the details and outcome soon!

CARCASE JUDGING COMPETITION: Is being held on Thursday 12th October BKP Sargeants of Bramshall. Teams entered: Chase, Eccleshall, Leek, Lichfield, Stone and Uttoxeter A & B. Information has been circulated.

DAVID PALIJ AWARD (awarded at the County AGM): The information for this competition is used to enter Staffordshire YFC into The Prince of Wales Challenge at NFYFC as well as giving us a total figure for publicity for Staffordshire YFC clubs on their fundraising efforts. **Please would Leek, Lichfield, Stone, Uttoxeter and Waterhouses submit their entries?**

SCRAPBOOK COMPETITION: This is again awarded at the County AGM. Please bring all scrapbooks to the County Office no later than Thurs 5th Oct (or to the Harvest Festival Service that evening.)

MERIT AWARD 2016/17—Nominations for the two categories—Junior and Senior for the year 2016/17. We have not had any entries from **Abbotsholme, Chase, Eccleshall, Ridware and Waterhouses.**

GO KARTING COMPETITION: Tuesday 14th November, at Fast Lane Karting in Fenton. Entry Forms were circulated in the last Action Press. Due no later than 6th October.

PUBLIC SPEAKING DAY: Don't forget that this day has moved from February, to 26th November this year! Make sure that your club sends over their entries for 9th October and if you need any help with practices, do get in touch! **We have not had any entries from—Abbotsholme, Ashley, Cheadle, Leek, Lichfield, Ridware, Stone, Uttoxeter and Waterhouses. Information Sheets will be circulated on 12th October for these competitions so please ensure entries are in on time!**

FRISBEE AND DODGEBALL: Are both being held on Sunday 3rd December, at Abbotsholme School. We have the following teams entered:
Frisbee (16 –26 years) - Chase, Eccleshall, Leek, Lichfield, Stone and Uttoxeter
Dodgeball (10—16 years) - Abbotsholme, Chase, Eccleshall A, Eccleshall B, Leek, Lichfield, Stone and Uttoxeter.

Please advise any changes to these teams as soon as possible. Information Sheets will be circulated in the next Club post (12th Oct)

PLEASE WOULD ALL CLUBS ENSURE THAT ANY INFORMATION AND ENTRIES RELATING TO 2017/18 ARE PASSED ONTO THEIR NEW CLUB OFFICERS IN SEPTEMBER FOLLOWING THEIR CLUB AGM?

NFU Insurance for Sports—Information regarding insurance for Sports Competitions, sports practices and friendly competitions is enclosed and has been emailed to all clubs top tables as well as being circulated at the start of the year. Please ensure that if your club is organising a practice competition, then you are adhering to the guidance as outlined in the NFU Insurance Schedule. Failure to do so, will result in no Insurance cover being provided. If you need any help or information, please do not hesitate to contact the County Office.

Development Committee News

Date of the next Meeting: Thursday 19th October, 8pm

Committee Chairman: Becky Fowell

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CLUB PROGRAMMES: Up to date programmes are required from all Clubs except Abbotsholme, Eccleshall, Chase and Cheadle.

Club Programmes and forward planning are a fundamental part of the requirements of any Club that is running safely and well organised.

OATCAKE: The next edition of Oatcake will be out in September with a deadline of Friday 1st December. A "Masquerade" Ball ticket is up for grabs for the best contribution. The Editor of the Oatcake, Lisa Hawkins, can be sent information direct—email lisagingentonic@aol.com or text her on 07792 216337.

NEW WEBSITE: All Clubs have been sent their passwords and user names for updating their section of the Website. Please add in your Club Programme nights in the "Events" section and make sure you put photos on there too. The password for the OPPORTUNITIES section is "FIVE7" - Let your members know.

CLUB OFFICERS RETURN FORMS 2017/2018: This is now OVERDUE from: Chase, Leek, Lichfield, Stone, Uttoxeter and Waterhouses. Please ensure that this is completed by return as information will still be sent to last years officers and reps until received!

BONFIRE/FIREWORKS DISPLAY: Enclosed is some information approved by the NFU, our Insurance Company, which clubs must follow when organising any Bonfire or Fireworks displays—either public or YFC only.

CLUB OFFICERS DISCLOSURE AND BARRING (DBS) CHECKS: Any newly elected officers for 16/17 who have not yet completed a DBS Check with Julia at their Club AGM, please make arrangements to do this as soon as possible, and at the very latest by Thursday 18th October at the Development Meeting.

CLUB OFFICERS TRAINING WEEKEND: Ilam Hall, Sat 21st—Sun 22nd Oct. Booking deadline is 2nd October. Don't miss out! Full details on the website.

RURAL HUB YFC BUSINESS START UP GRANTS — still available for up to £1000. For full information and a downloadable application form head to <http://staffsyoungfarmers.org.uk/opportunities> Applications can be sent in 4th - 30th Sept.

TELL YOUR MEMBERS –TRAINING MONIES AVAILABLE: Individual grants of up to £100 to YFC members aged 10—26 years who undertake a vocational course of their choice. For full info head to our website <http://staffsyoungfarmers.org.uk/opportunities>

THE CURVE: Plenty of evenings available which clubs can hold anytime during the year. Safe Driving, Alcohol Awareness, Team Building, Farm Safety...to name a few! A full list of the available courses are on the NFYFC Website. Contact the County Office to get your club night booked.

Social & Funding Committee News

Date of the next Meeting: Thursday 25th January 2018

Committee Chairmen: Zoe Foster & Polly Baines

Dates for your diary:

- **Harvest Festival:** St John the Baptist, Ashley, 8pm on Thursday 5th October. Everyone welcome.
- **"Beauty and the Beast" Ball:** Saturday 28th October, back to Pirelli Stadium at Burton on Trent, 9pm—1am. Tecno Tecno Disco. DISCOUNTED TICKETS NOW ON SALE, ONLY £15 TO CURRENT MEMBER! Please share and spread the word on social media and to your club members.
- **AGM Raffle**—Please return to the YFC Office any unsold tickets and stubs by Thursday 9th November. Thanks for selling them. Do let us know if you need any more.

Dates for your far off diary:

- **Christmas at Couture,** Stafford (18+ only) - Tuesday 26th December 2017
- **Masquerade Ball,** County Showground—Saturday 30th December 2017 (YES, before New Years Eve!)
- **Annual Dinner Dance,** County Showground—Saturday 10th March 2018
- **Spring Fling,** Venue TBC—Saturday 7th April 2018.

Thank you everyone for continuing to support the Staffordshire YFC events!

Please ask your members to share our events with fellow members on Facebook!

County Calendar 2017

OCTOBER

Sunday 1 st	Mixed Hockey Competition
Sunday 1 st	Final Dress Rehearsal of The Queens Award to Staffordshire YFC
Thursday 5 th	Harvest Festival
Saturday 7 th	The Presentation of The Queens Award to Staffordshire YFC
Monday 9 th	YFC Travel Information Evening
Tuesday 10 th	WMA Committee Meeting
Thursday 12 th	Carcase Judging Competition
Monday 16 th	Club Leaders and Club Presidents Evening
Thursday 19 th	Development Committee Meeting
Sat 21 st - Sun 22 nd	NFYFC Council Weekend
Sat 21 st - Sun 22 nd	Club Officers Training Weekend
Saturday 28 th	Beauty & the Beast Ball, Burton on Trent
Fri 27 th - Sun 29 th	YFA Reunion Weekend, Taunton, Somerset

NOVEMBER

Thursday 2 nd	Health & Safety Awareness Training Night
Monday 6 th	Dinner Dance Planning Night
Thursday 9 th	Club Programming & Media Training Night
Friday 10 th	County AGM & Awards
Tuesday 14 th	Go Karting Competition
Thursday 16 th	Executive Committee Meeting
Sat 18 th - Sun 19 th	English Winter Fair
Monday 20 th	Management & County Officers' Meeting
Thursday 23 rd	Competitions Committee Meeting
Saturday 25 th	Silage Competition
Sunday 26 th	WMA Annual General Meeting
Thursday 30 th	County Officers Introduction Night

DECEMBER

Saturday 2 nd	NFYFC YFC Travel Selection Day
Sunday 3 rd	Dodgeball and Frisbee Competitions
Thursday 7 th	Staffordshire YFC Christmas Shopping Night
Tuesday 26 th	Santa Send-off Disco



TELL YOUR MEMBERS ABOUT THIS.....

Staffordshire YFC have the opportunity for ONE FREE PLACE at the NFU Conference 2017 being held 20—21st Feb 2018. If anyone would like to put your name forward, please do so no later than 9am on Wednesday 18th October. The person attending will be drawn at random in the County Development Meeting being held on Thursday 19th October.

THE QUEENS AWARD

Tickets are enclosed to all clubs who have sent in their list of names. Please ensure that you distribute them before the night to everyone as they are needed on arrival.

Final dress rehearsal is being held 6pm on Sunday 1st October. All costumes, props and people involved in any way to be there including the member who is collecting your Club's Certificate of Achievement.

We shall provide pizza and refreshments at the Dress Rehearsal!

JOB OPPORTUNITY: HERDSPERSON REQUIRED FOR LARGE DAIRY HERD (350 COWS AND FOLLOWERS) J S MADDERS AND SONS, LOWER HANYWARDS FARM, TIXALL. COTTAGE AVAILABLE. IN THE FIRST INSTANCE PLEASE CALL MARK 07974 202924 OR JAMES 07974 572292

TRAINING!

It is essential that all clubs and club officers attend regular training evenings and days offered by the Federation to ensure that they are up to date

with the latest legislation, opportunities and can share ideas with their fellow club officers. Please also note that this is a fundamental part of the Club Efficiency Competition in order for your club to gain a Bronze Award at the end of the year.

Information for the below dates are enclosed. Please ensure that your club is booked in.

Club Trustees, Club Presidents, Leaders, Advisory Members—

Monday 16th October, The County Office, Book in by Monday 9th October.

Safeguarding Awareness—Thursday 26th October, 7.30pm, The County Office. Book in by Friday 20th October.

Health & Safety Awareness—Thursday 2nd November, 8pm The County Office. Book in by Friday 20th October.

Programme/Social Media Training—Thursday 9th November, 8pm, The County Office. Book in by Friday 20th October.

Information on all of the above is enclosed in the Club Secretaries post



Oxford Farming Conference (3—5th January 2018). We have TWO FREE PLACES, kindly supported by Staffordshire & Birmingham Agricultural Society.

HOW DO MEMBERS APPLY?

Members are asked to send in, using no more than 500 words, a written piece entitled "Why I should be chosen to attend the Oxford Farming Conference."

This is to be emailed into the County Office no later than Monday 23rd October to:

organiser@staffsyounfarmers.org.uk

The winners of the competition will be announced at the County AGM which is being held on Friday 10th November 2017, at The Ingestre Suite, County Showground, Stafford starting at 7.45pm.