

2014 ALL-IRELAND HEDGE LAYING CHAMPIONSHIP

COMPETITION RULES & SCORING

1. Open to anyone with suitable experience or who possesses an NPTC in hedgelaying or an NHL5 accredited Certificate.
2. The Chief Steward reserves the right to refuse entry to anyone whose experience is considered inadequate for the All Ireland Championship.
3. There will be two classes, one for contractors and one for novices. Novice competitors to cut 5 yds and Contractors 7yds.
4. The time limit for all competitors will be 5½ hours, from 9:30 am to 3,00 pm Competitors exceeding this time will be penalised.
5. Competitors to report to the Chief Steward by 9:00 a.m. when they will be directed to their class. The draw for lengths will be made at the hedge.
6. Competitors are to lay the length drawn starting from their number working towards the next highest number.
7. Competitors opening up their length must leave sufficient material for the next entrant to lay in on completion of their length.
8. Competitors may receive assistance from a steward or another competitor, other help will not be allowed and may lead to points deduction.
9. Competitors must use stakes and binders provided by the society. Failure to do so may lead to a points deduction.
10. Competitors using excessive deadwood inappropriate for their style will be penalised. Judges will be briefed accordingly.
11. Any competitor refusing to cut the length drawn will be ineligible to compete the following year.
12. Judging will be on a points basis. The Judge's and Chief Steward's decisions are final and no discussion or correspondence will be entered into by the Association.
13. Chainsaws are permitted but all competitors **MUST** use appropriate safety equipment as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive, FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION. The Safety Officer has the right to penalise any competitor who in his opinion is working in an unsafe way.
14. COMPETITORS USING A CHAINSAW MUST POSSESS A VALID CHAINSAW CERTIFICATE AND **MUST RETURN A PHOTOCOPY OF THE CERT WITH THEIR APPLICATION.**
15. All fence and wire posts must be left in situ and all waste to be left on the face side of the finished hedge.