

# **Devon Beekeepers' Association County Honey Show Rules**

## **These Rules are equivalent to the British Beekeepers' Association Show Rules**

### **1. Entries**

No exhibit may be entered in more than one class. Exhibitors are permitted to make more than one entry in a class but shall not take more than one award in that class. Joint owners are to be regarded as one exhibitor. The produce of a colony or colonies jointly owned may not be exhibited by more than one of the joint owners. The preparation of all the entries (except where otherwise stated) must be by the exhibitor. Classes may be amalgamated or cancelled at the discretion of the Show Executive which has the power to refuse any entry or exhibit without giving reason.

### **2. Delivery, Staging and Collection of Exhibits**

Exhibitors may only stage exhibits when permitted by the Show Executive to do so. Exhibits shall not be removed before the time stated in the schedule or, if none is stated, before the end of the show. Competitors are responsible for the delivery and collection of their own exhibits either personally or by a named third party. The containers of exhibits sent to the show must be easy to open and repack. Lids to be fastened with approved fasteners. Nailed lids will not be accepted. (Cardboard containers should not be used as they constitute a fire hazard)

### **3. Disqualifications**

An exhibit found to be adulterated shall be disqualified. (The colouring of wax in display, trophy and similar classes is not deemed to be adulteration for the purpose of this rule). All honey and wax must be the natural produce of bees owned by the exhibitor. (This rule may be waived for Candle, Foundation, and Confectionery classes at the discretion of the Show Executive).

### **4. Labels**

The labels, as supplied by the Show Secretary, must not be altered in any way. Except where otherwise stated no label, trade mark or other distinguishing mark may be placed on an exhibit. Labels shall be affixed:

- To jars & bottles so as to leave approx 2cm between the label and the base of the vessel.
- To wax, on the upper surface of the wax displayed & if applicable a duplicate on its container.
- To sections and comb honey frames - at the top right hand corner of the front vertical face of the case, and a duplicate one on the section or frame within.
- To cakes and confectionery - on a plain white card placed together with the exhibit in the plastic bag provided.
- To cut-comb containers - one on the lid and a duplicate label on the side of the container.
- To displays, shop window trade exhibits, all other exhibits so as to be completely visible.

Exhibits in commercial classes should bear a Lot Number & conform to current food labelling regulation

### **5. Gift Classes**

Exhibits in Gift Classes become the property of the Show Executive and may be sold before the end of the show. The exhibitor must provide a label conforming to current food labelling regulations so that it can be affixed to the exhibit, enabling it to be sold after judging has taken place.

### **6. Extracted Honey**

Extracted honey must be exhibited in clear 1lb (454g) squat glass jars with lacquered metal or white plastic commercial screw or twist-off lids, all of British Standard pattern and matching except where otherwise stated; display, shop window and special classes are exempt from this rule. Colour will be judged in accordance with BBKA grading filters complying with BS 1656. Jars must contain the standard weight specified in the schedule.

### **7. Sections**

Sections must be enclosed in white section cases or in plain commercial containers with windows. An area of not less than 8cmx8cm of comb must be visible. Lacing if used must be white; the section must be easily removable from its container. Round sections to be displayed with clear covers on both sides.

### **8. Cut Comb Honey**

Cut comb honey must be displayed in standard white or clear commercial 8oz containers with a transparent snap-on lid.

### **9. Comb Honey for Extraction**

These combs must be displayed in bee-proof protective cases without edging or lacing. The comb

must be visible from both sides. The comb must be capable of being extracted (by centrifugal action in a honey extractor or, in the case of ling heather honey, by the use of a heather press).

#### **10. Wax**

Wax must be exhibited in a transparent plastic bag; it may be polished or unpolished; and exhibits must fall within the weights specified in the schedule and meet any minimum thickness specification. Where just one specific weight (eg, 8oz) is specified in the schedule, the wax exhibit must be within 10% of that weight. At the judges' discretion wax blocks may be broken.

#### **11. Mead & Metheglin**

Mead must be exhibited in clear colourless (or slightly green tinted) glass 75cl bottles of the new sauterne type (of round section with rounded not fluted shoulders) without lettering or ornament of any kind. Bottles with a punt, a shallow punt, or with a flat bottom are equally acceptable. The bottle must be stoppered by a cork with a white (or cream coloured) plastic flange and be easily removable by hand, not tied down or requiring mechanical aids to remove it. No foil or other wrapping around the stopper to be allowed. The bottle must contain a minimum of 75cl of the mead type specified. The exhibit must be made by the exhibitor by the process of fermentation only. No fortification by any method allowed. No alcohol, flavouring or colouring matter may be added (other than herbs to Metheglin).

#### **12. Live Bees**

Bees exhibited in purpose-made observation hives must be able to fly at all times. Exhibits must contain ample stores to last the bees the duration of the show. Exhibitors of observation hives should ensure that the bees have a supply of water at all times. Observation hives will be judged for educational appeal as well as their contents. Exhibitors should ensure that either they or some other knowledgeable responsible person should be in attendance at all times that the public are present. Nucleus hives for competition should be prepared in accordance with BS 1372, ie, there should be a laying queen present with brood in all stages covering at least half the comb area, with an average of 1¼ lbs of honey and pollen per comb, and sufficient bees to cover all the combs. Exhibitors must ensure that all exhibits of live bees must be healthy and free of notifiable diseases.

#### **13. Cakes**

Cakes must be made by the exhibitor or by a member of the exhibitor's immediate family. All cakes to be exhibited in clear, unsealed plastic bags and placed on a white paper plate or doily. Exhibitors must conform to any schedule requirements which specify the recipe, and/or the shape and size of the baking tin to be used. Cakes may be cut in half by the judge.

#### **14. Awards**

In the event of a tie for a cup or prize awarded on a points basis, the award shall be made to the exhibitor who has secured the most first prizes; failing this, first and second prizes, and so on. If there is still a tie, then more importance will be paid to prizes gained in those classes containing the most entries. This will be determined by the judge(s).

#### **15. Protests**

Any protests must be put in writing and lodged with the Show Executive for any infringements of these rules or the show schedule within the time period stated in the schedule. All such protests must be accompanied by the sum of £10 to discourage trivial or mischievous protests. Should the protest be sustained or considered reasonable by the Show Executive then this sum will be refunded.

#### **16. Powers of the Show Executive**

The Show Executive is empowered to increase the number and value of prizes and/or awards in any class should the number and standard of merit warrant their doing so; withhold prizes in case of insufficient merit or entries; submit any exhibit for analysis; dispose of any damaged exhibit which cannot be reasonably returned to the exhibitor; retain all or any part of an exhibit concerning which a protest has been made until a decision upon such a protest has been taken; and decide any question as to the interpretation of the foregoing rules and the show schedule.

#### **17. Decisions & Liabilities of the Show Executive**

The decisions of the Show Executive on any matter whatsoever, under or in relation to the foregoing Rules and the Show Schedule, or on any protest or objection in relation to thereto, or to any exhibit, shall be final and conclusive. The Show Executive will not be responsible for loss or damage sustained in any way by exhibitors either to their property or person.