**SOUTH OF ENGLAND HEDGE LAYING SOCIETY**

Registered Charity No. 1046124

**37th ANNUAL HEDGELAYING COMPETITION**

To be held at Norton Farm, Selbourne Rd, Alton, Hampshire.

By kind permission of Mr & Mrs Faulkner

on **Sunday20th**

 **February 2022**

**Entries close 30th January 2022**

Entry for the competition is **free to members;** all details will be in your joining pack. A joining pack including a schedule, map and prize list will be posted/emailed on **10th February.** Confirmation that your entry was received will be sent to members who have email

Classes and prizes

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Class** | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** |
| Champion | The Society Cup + | £50 | £25 | £15 |
| Senior | Westward Plaque +  | £50 | £25 | £15 |
| Novice | Westward Plaque +  | £50 | £25 | £15 |
| Novice Pairs | Society Plate + | £50 | £25 | £15 |
| Veteran | The Society Trophy +  | £50 | £25 | £15 |
| Best 1st Year re-growth | The Whitington Shield +  | £25 | £15 | £10 |
| Best Veteran re-growth | The Fred Mouland Memorial Trophy | £25 |
| Best length of bindings (Novices only) | Presidents Prize - kindly donated by the Society President | £20 |
| Most improved Novice | The Bill Truran Memorial Trophy | £25 |
| Best work on a poor length | The Joan Streete Memorial Shield | £25 |
| Best staking & binding | The Jim Vantassel Tankard | £25 |
| Best work with hand tools – Novice |   | £75 |
| Best work with hand tools - Novice Pairs |   | £75 |
| Best work with hand tools – Veteran |   | £75 |
| Best work with hand tools – Senior |   | £75 |
| Best work with hand tools – Champion |   | £75 |

**COMPETITION ENTRY FORM**

PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR ENTRY DETAILS BELOW

(Please note that entries in all classes are limited by availability)

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please write clearly in BLOCK CAPITALS**

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you are happy to save the society money and receive joining instructions by email? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE INDICATE THE CLASS WHICH APPLIES TO YOU (**tick 1 box**)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Class** | **Eligibility** | **Tick** |
| **1** **Veteran A**  | For those aged 60 to 69 years of age on the competition date |  |
| **2 Veteran B** | For those aged 70 and over on the competition date |  |
| **3 Senior**  | For those who have previously won 1st prize in a novice class and experienced cutters who, having previously entered the Novice Class, and now wish to compete at a higher level |  |
| **4 Champion**  | For those who are current members of the Champion Class **Special note: Champion class is for the elite layers, the person in last place will not be eligible to enter this class the following year (they will swap places with the winner of the senior class)** |  |
| **5 Novice**  | Entrants for this class must have completed at least 4 training days in the past 3 years or have previously entered, at a similar level, and completed a recognised competition in the allocated time. The first prize winner from the previous year may not enter this class again. |  |

**Lunches**

Please indicate if you wish to attend the meal after the competition (tick)

If you would like a vegetarian meal please advise (tick)

I wish to order \_\_\_additional lunches please advise, there will be a charge for this.

The payment will be via bank transfer.

I have read, understood and accept the Competition preconditions & rules (tick)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO:

**Chris Burchell Collins. 188 Wantley Hill, Henfield, West Sussex, BN5 9JW. Or ideally email details to** thesouthofenglandhedgelayers@googlemail.com

**CONDITIONS**

* All competitors must be fully paid up members of the Society on 30th January
* All competition applications must be fully completed and acknowledged.
* Any exceptional circumstances or special conditions required by a competitor (e.g. assistance due to lack of mobility or injury) must be agreed by the Chief Steward prior to the start of the competition.

**COMPETITION RULES**

* The announcement of the draw will be at **08.45** and laying will commence at **09.00**.
* Rejection of the drawn cant will result in immediate disqualification and a penalty of suspension from the Society Competition in the following year.
* **Time allowed: 5 Hours** – any extra time will be at the discretion of the Competition Director and Chief Steward.
* Competitors arriving later than 30 minutes from the start of the Competition will be allowed to start at the discretion of the Chief Steward.
* Signals: An air horn will be used:

 2 short blasts will indicate the draw for cants at 08.45.

 1 long blast will indicate the start of the competition at 09.00.

 1 short blast will be sounded 15 minutes before the end of the competition

 2 long blasts will indicate the end of the competition.

**Immediately following the final signal competitors will be expected to stand away from their work and no further work is to be undertaken.** The Judge will then mark the cant according to the work that has been completed. **Competitors who have not completed their cant will then return to complete it. Failure to do this will result in exclusion from the following year’s competition.**

**If in the opinion of the Steward or Judge the cant is not completed due to the competitor wasting time, the Judge will deduct 5 points from the competitor’s score.**

**Failure to stand away from the hedge will result in that cant not being marked whether complete or not**.

* All competitors to cut and lay a stock proof hedge in the South of England style (definition on separate sheet) of not more than 10yds with a finished height of 4 feet to the top of the binders (Veterans and Novices typically 8yds).
* All frith to be cleared to the side of the hedge indicated by the stewards with a minimum 1.5 YARDS separation from the hedge. Any competitor leaving frith within 1.5 yards is liable to DISQUALIFICATION. All cants to be left tidy.
* Only those stakes and binders provided by the Society are to be used.
* The Competition will be regulated by the Chief Steward in conjunction with the competition Director.
* Competitors in the Novice Classes will not be allowed to use chainsaws. A chainsaw steward will be appointed. Competitors in other classes must provide and use the appropriate safety equipment and have their **Certificate details** registered with the society.
* Previously agreed assistance shall be limited to non-assessable activities.
* The Judge’s decision is final.
* All Competitors agree to abide by the safety directions.
* Depending on the number of entries, it may be necessary to cancel or amalgamate classes and adjust the prizes accordingly.
* No 3rd prize will be paid if there are only 4 entries
* Vehicles may only be parked as directed.
* All scores will be published after the event
* All dogs must be kept on a lead or tether, they are not allowed to run free or in be kept in a vehicle.