

CYMDEITHAS AMAETHYDDOL FRENHINOL CYMRU CYF  
ROYAL WELSH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY LTD



NODDWR / PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN  
LLYWYDD / PRESIDENT: MR TREBOR EDWARDS

**RHAGLEN AR GYFER**  
**PENCAMPWRIAETHAU DRINGO**  
**POLION FRENHINOL CYMRU A**  
**CYSTADLEUAETHAU RASIO BWYELL**

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**SCHEDULE FOR**  
**THE ROYAL WELSH POLE CLIMBING**  
**CHAMPIONSHIPS & AXE RACING**  
**COMPETITIONS**

GORFFENNAF / JULY 21 ~ 22 ~ 23~ 24 2008

Ceisiadau olaf – Dringo Polion :	2 Gorffennaf 2008
Closing date for entries – Pole Climbing:	2 July 2008
****	
Ceisiadau olaf – Rasio Bwyell :	20 Mehefin 2008
Closing date for entries – Axe Racing:	20 June 2008

Miss Bethan Lewis

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# POLE CLIMBING COMPETITIONS

## Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July: HANDICAP CLIMBING COMPETITION (80ft)

Handicap - Male and Female

Ladies Pole Climbing

Format : **Heats** - from 10.30am; 12.30pm; **Qualifying Heat** 3.00pm; **Finals** 5.00pm

### **Gwobrau / Prizes**

(Handicap) £100: £50: £30: £20: £10: £5  
(Ladies) £40: £30; £20

**Sponsored by Adam Sinclair, Forestry Contractor, Boughrood**  
**Sponsored by Timber Wolf**

## Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July: OPEN SPEED COMPETITION (80ft)

### **Gwobrau / Prizes**

(Experts) £250: £125: £75: £50: £25: £25  
(Intermediate) £50; £40; £30, £20  
(Ladies) £40; £30; £20

**Sponsored by Raymond Barker Forestry**  
**Sponsored by UPM Tillhill Forestry Ltd**

**The Arboricultural Association Challenge Shield** will be presented to **The Welsh Champion Pole Climber** (qualifying competitors to be born Welsh) **together with prize money of £50** sponsored by **John Weaver & Sons, Leominster.**

## Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July:

Format as Monday

**European Open Pole Climbing Championship (100ft)**  
**Handicap Climb (100ft)**

### **Gwobrau / Prizes**

£200: £125: £75: £50: £25: £25  
£80; £50: £30: £20

**The European Open Pole Climbing Championship Shield** and replica kindly donated by **Mr Andrew Mills, Tree Surgeon,** will be presented to the overall winner in the **European Open Pole Climbing Championship.**

**Sponsored by Woodfest Wales ( [www.woodfestwales.co.uk](http://www.woodfestwales.co.uk) )**  
**Sponsored by Paul Wilson, School of Motoring, New Radnor**

## Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July: Handicap Championship (100ft) -

Format as Monday

### **Gwobrau / Prizes**

£100: £60: £40: £25: £15: £10

Most improved Novice Climber over the week – Trophy  
Donated by Andrew and Theresa Mills

Sponsored by Safety Technology ([www.safetytechnology.co.uk](http://www.safetytechnology.co.uk))

# POLECLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

## INTRODUCTION

1. **EVENT:** The event is called 'The 2008 Royal Welsh Poleclimbing Championship'. It is a competition to establish who can climb up a free standing wooden pole with appropriate climbing aids in the fastest time.
2. **Date and venue:** The event will be held during the Royal Welsh Show on 21 - 24 July 2008 at the Royal Welsh Showground, Llanelwedd, Builth Wells signposted from all major routes.
3. **Eligibility for entry:** All entrants must :-
  - a. Be fit, healthy and capable of the extreme physical exertion required by the event.
  - b. Have their own personal climbing equipment.
  - c. Be sufficiently experienced in tree climbing techniques to competently use that climbing equipment.
  - d. Complete and sign the official entry forms before participating.
  - e. Notify the organisers in advance of any special health conditions such as epilepsy, diabetes, etc.
4. **Novice Climber:** A novice climber is defined as a person who is relatively new to the sport. Novice climbers can come from a tree work or a utility background and should be familiar with the use of spikes. One of the objectives of this competition is to encourage those who have not taken part in this sport to have a go. Novice climbers will be welcomed and all efforts made to ensure that they are able to practice outside the glare of the main competition with the possibility of taking part in the novice event if they feel happy with their efforts.
5. **Supervision:** This event will be run under the supervision of the Welsh Axemen Association. The WAA is an organisation which is primarily concerned with the safety and professionalism of pole climbing and its supervisory role ensures that the highest standards are achieved.

## SAFETY

6. **Equipment:** All entrants should bring the following climbing equipment:-

Climbing harness which must have a waist belt, 2 leg straps and a proper point of attachment for the safety line.

  - a. Pole strop of a sufficient length to encircle the pole and be safely attached to both sides of the harness.
  - b. Set of climbing spikes.
  - c. Working boots and gloves.
  - d. All equipment will be inspected before the event to ensure that it is safe and appropriate for the situation. Safety ropes and all fixings to the poles will be provided.
7. **Safety procedures:** The Chief Steward will check each entrant on the following points prior to allowing a climb to proceed.
  - a. The climbing equipment is correctly fitted, secured and adjusted.
  - b. The pole strop is around the pole and secured to the harness at both ends.
  - c. The safety line is running free through the top of the pole and secured to the correct coupling on the climber's harness.
  - d. The person belaying the climber understands the task and is ready.
  - e. The climber is ready and outwardly capable of completing the climb.

Once the Chief Steward is satisfied that these requirements have been met he will allow the Starter to start the climb. When the climb is completed the climber should rest until sufficiently recovered to climb down the pole with the belayer controlling the descent. If the climber is incapacitated for any reason then the belayer will take full weight and control his descent. A spare rope and set of equipment will be available at all times in case there is need to help a climber down the pole.

  - f. No climber on descent is to do any stunts, belayer will control the speed the climber is brought down.

8. **ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITION**

Pre booked entries will be given priority.

13. **Practise for each day:** Practise for the events on the first three days will follow the same procedure. It will be held on the two poles in the Axemen's Arena. The timing is flexible but has to fit in with other displays which run throughout the morning. It will start between 9.30a.m. and 10.00a.m. The time available for qualifying may be limited and preference will be given to those who have pre-booked. All efforts will be made to fit in those who turn up on the day.
  14. **Qualifying for each day.** Qualifying for each day will take place after 2.45pm. All climbers will race against the clock to find the fastest to compete in the final in the afternoon. The times from qualifying will determine the poles and the climbing order in the final.
  15. **Finals for each day:** The expert final is intended to be the climax of the day where the fastest climbers race to determine the overall champion. The 11th and 12th fastest climbers from the qualifiers will go in the first race and so on until the 1st and 2nd fastest climbers from the qualifier will go in the last and final race. The fastest climber from these final races will be the champion of the day. On the second day this will decide the Royal Welsh Champion. The third day will decide the European Open Pole Climbing Champion - 100ft.
- ORGANISATION OF EACH CLIMB.**
16. **Starting and finishing the climb:** Tuesday, Open Speed Competition and Wednesday the European Open Pole Climbing Championship will start when the Chief Steward is satisfied that the safety preparation has been observed, the starting will be undertaken by the starter. When the climber and belayer are ready, the climb will be started by the words:-  
"Climber by your pole. Three, two, one, GO"  
On "GO", the climber will start the climb and when at the top of the pole, you will ring the bell.  
  
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday Handicap Climbing Competition will start when the Chief Steward is satisfied that the safety preparation has been observed, the starting will be undertaken by the starter. When the climber and belayer are ready, the climb will be started by the words:-  
"Pole No 1, your handicap is -----, Pole No 2, your handicap is------. Climber by your pole. One, two, three, four, five, six etc". On your called number you will start the climb and when at the top of the pole, you will ring the bell.
  17. **Timing and recording:** The timing will be recorded by a video camera and tapes will be used for ratification in the event of protests. The time will be started on "GO" and stopped on the bell being rung. All times will be recorded in writing.
  18. **Time checking and disputes:** Every time in each event will be recorded in writing. It is the responsibility of each climber to check the recorded times and agree them with the Stewards directly after the event. Any disagreement **must** be brought to the attention of the Chief Steward before the following climb commences to allow for a rapid investigation and decision. The Chief Steward will be responsible for settling any disputes and his decision will be final.
  19. No alcohol is allowed in the forestry arena during competition time and public climb sessions.

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## CYDNABYDDIAETH / ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Mae CAFC a'r Adran Coedwigaeth yn cydnabod gyda diolch cefnogaeth parhaol gan:  
The RWAS and the Forestry Section acknowledges with thanks continued support by:

**Andrew & Theresa Mills**  
**Adam Sinclair, Forestry Contractor, Boughrood**  
**Timberwolf**  
**Raymond Barker Forestry**  
**UPM Tilhill Forestry Ltd.**  
**Woodfest Wales ([www.woodfestwales.co.uk](http://www.woodfestwales.co.uk))**  
**Paul Wilson, School of Motoring, New Radnor**  
**Safety Technology ([www.safetytechnology.co.uk](http://www.safetytechnology.co.uk))**

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## Dydd Llun 21 Gorffennaf / Monday 21 July

9.00 a.m.	Section open
9.30 a.m.	Judging of Competitive Section and Tradestands
10.00 a.m.	Judging of Stickmaking Competition
10.30 a.m.	Pole Climbing – Heats
11.00 a.m.	Axe Racing Competitions throughout the day
12.30 p.m.	Pole Climbing –Heats
3.00 p.m.	Pole Climbing – Heats
3.15 p.m.	Presentation of Awards for Forestry Section Stickmaking competitions in the Stickmaking Section.
5.00 p.m.	Pole Climbing – <b>Final of Monday's Heats</b>

## Dydd Mawrth 22 Gorffennaf / Tuesday 22 July

9.00 a.m.	Section Open Stickmaking Demonstration by the South Wales Stickmakers throughout the day.
10.30 a.m.	Pole Climbing Heats
11.00 a.m.	Axe Racing Competitions throughout the day
12.30 p.m.	Pole Climbing - Heats
2.45 p.m.	Presentation of Woodlands Competition Awards (in front of Forestry Steward's Pavilion).
3.00 p.m.	Pole Climbing - Heats
3.15 p.m.	Presentation of Tradestand Competition Awards (in front of Forestry Steward's Pavilion).
4.00 p.m.	Treefelling Competition Awards – Main action ring
5.00 p.m.	Pole Climbing - <b>Final of Tuesday's Heats</b>

## Dydd Mercher 23 Gorffennaf / Wednesday 23 July

9.00 a.m.	Section Open Stickmaking Demonstrations by South Wales Stickmakers throughout the day.
10.30 a.m.	Pole Climbing - Heats
11.00 a.m.	Axe Racing Competitions throughout the day
12.30 p.m.	Pole Climbing - Heats
3.00 p.m.	Pole Climbing - Heats
5.00 p.m.	Pole Climbing - <b>Finals of Wednesday's Heats</b>

## Dydd Iau 24 Gorffennaf / Thursday 24 July

9.00 a.m.	Section Open Stickmaking Demonstrations by South Wales Stickmakers throughout the day.
10.30 a.m.	Pole Climbing - Heats
11.00 a.m.	Axe Racing Competitions throughout the day
11.30 a.m.	Presentation of Forestry Schools Awards - Forestry Commission Pavilion.
12.30 p.m.	Pole Climbing - Heats
3.00 p.m.	Pole Climbing - Heats
5.00 p.m.	Pole Climbing - <b>Final of Thursday's Heats</b>

**The Welsh Axemen - Lumberjack Show and Pole Climbing Competitions and Exhibitions - Forestry Action Ring**

The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society acknowledges the continued support and enthusiasm of The Welsh Axemen and Pole Climbing Clubs in arranging an exciting and action packed programme of skills and expertise to entertain all avid followers of the popular sports. Invitations have been issued to competitors from around the world to attend the Royal Welsh Show and to compete in the thrilling challenges provided for their expertise. A warm welcome is again extended to all overseas competitors and the Welsh team will look forward to meeting a strong world wide opposition.

## AXE RACING COMPETITIONS

### Dydd Llun 21 Gorffennaf / Monday 21 July – Amserlen / Timetable of events

**Axe Racing/Cross Cutting Competitions** – Commence 11.00am

#### Competition Championship Events

#### Prize Money

1. Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
2. Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Standing Block Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
3. Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Championship	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
4. Axe Racing - Royal Welsh 3 Board TREE Climb Top Nine	£50; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
5. Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
6. Axe Racing - Welsh Standing Block Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
7. Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Two man Sawing	£40; £30; £20; £10
8. Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Three Man Team Race	£100; £75; £30; £20

### Dydd Mawrth 22 Gorffennaf / Tuesday 22 July – Amserlen o Digwyddiadau yn debyg i Dydd Llun / Timetable of Events as Monday

#### Competition Championship Events

#### Prize Money

1. Axe Racing - Welsh Under Hand Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
2. Axe Racing - The David Vaughan Open Standing Block Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
3. Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
4. Axe Racing - The Des Thomas Memorial Championship Standing 13ins Block	£40; £30; £20; £10; £5; £5
5. Axe Racing - Royal Welsh 2 Board Tree Championship	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
6. Axe Racing - The Brian Pugh Memorial Open Standing Block Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
7. Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Two Man Combination Handicap – <b>partners name to be included on entry form</b>	£80; £55; £45; £30; £15; £15
8. Axe Racing – Royal Welsh Open Two Man Sawing	£40; £25; £15; £10

Prize money for **Class 3 & 5** kindly sponsored by **BSG Supplies Ltd.**

**Dydd Mercher 23 Gorffennaf / Wednesday 23 July -  
Amserlen o Digwyddiadau yn debyg i Dydd Llun /  
Timetable of Events as Monday**

**Competition Championship Events**

**Prize Money**

1.	Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
2.	Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Standing Block Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
3.	Axe Racing - Welsh Standing Block Championship <b>TOP NINE</b>	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
4.	Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Championship	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
5.	Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Big Block Handicap Two Men – <b>partners name to be included on entry form</b>	£120; £75; £45; £30; £15; £15
6.	Axe Racing - Royal Welsh Open Two Board Tree Climb Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
7.	Axe Racing - Arthur Watts Consolation Under Hand Handicap	£20; £15; £10; £5

Prize money for **Class 2 & 6** kindly sponsored by **Fuelwood, Warwick**

**Dydd Iau 24 Gorffennaf / Thursday 24 July -  
Amserlen o Digwyddiadau yn debyg i Dydd Llun /  
Timetable of Events as Monday**

**Competition Championship Events**

**Prize Money**

1.	Axe Racing - New South Wales S/B Handicap	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
2.	Axe Racing – Welsh Under Hand Championship	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
3.	Axe Racing – Welsh Standing Block Championship	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
4.	Axe Racing – Welsh 3 Board Tree Climb Championship	£50; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
5.	Axe Racing - The New Zealand Trophy Under Hand 13ins	£40; £25; £15; £10; £5; £5
6.	Axe Racing – Two Man Sawing Championship	£40; £30; £20; £10
7.	Axe Racing – Single Man Sawing Handicap	£30; £15; £10; £5
8.	Axe Racing – Team Races and Clean up	£80; £40

**partners name to be included on entry form**

**Class 1 & 5** - will receive additional prizes kindly given by Oregon Bars / Chains

**CYDNABYDDIAETH / ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Mae CAFC a'r Adran Coedwigaeth yn cydnabod gyda diolch cefnogaeth parhaol gan:  
The RWAS and the Forestry Section acknowledges with thanks continued support by:

**S & C Bufton, Saw Mills, Llanddewi  
Fuelwood, Warwick  
Oregon Bars / Chains  
Masco Tool Hire, Llandrindod Wells  
BSG Supplies Ltd.  
Three Mills Water**

S&C.BUFTON SAWMILLS  
TREVOL FARM  
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LLANDRINDOD WELLS

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## ENTRY FORM FOR AXE RACING COMPETITIONS

**ENTRIES CLOSE / CEISIADAU OLAF : 20 Mehefin / June 2008.**

Please return to: Mr John Bufton, Pantyffen, Llanddewi, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 6SN.

**Entry Fee Payable to: The Welsh Axemen**

DAY	COMPETITION	ENTRY FEE	TICK ENTRY
Mon 21 July	Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Handicap	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh Open Standing Block Handicap	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Championship	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh 3 Board TREE Climb Top Nine	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Handicap	£4.00	
	Welsh Standing Block Handicap	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh Two Man Sawing	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh Three Man Team Race	£4.00 per person	
Tues 22 July	Welsh Under Hand Handicap	£4.00	
	The David Vaughan Open Standing Block Handicap	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Handicap	£4.00	
	The Des Thomas Memorial Championship Standing 13ins Block	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh 2 Board Tree Championship	£4.00	
	The Brian Pugh Memorial Open Standing Block Handicap	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh Open Two Man Combination Handicap - **** <b>partners name:</b>	£4.00 per person	
	Royal Welsh Open Two Man Sawing	£4.00	
Wed 23 July	Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Handicap	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh Open Standing Block Handicap	£4.00	
	Welsh Standing Block Championship	£4.00	
	Royal Welsh Open Under Hand Championship	£4.00	
	Open Under Hand Big Block Handicap Two Men -**** <b>partners name:</b>	£8.00 per team	
	Open Two Board Tree Climb Handicap	£4.00	

**NAME:**

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**ADDRESS:**

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**TEL NO:**

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# **ENTRY FORM FOR AXE RACING COMPETITIONS**

**ENTRIES CLOSE / CEISIADAU OLAF : 20 Mehefin / June 2008.**

Please return to: Mr John Bufton, Pantyffen, Llanddewi, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 6SN.

Entry Fee Payable to: **The Welsh Axemen**

<b>DAY</b>	<b>COMPETITION</b>	<b>ENTRY FEE</b>	<b>TICK ENTRY</b>
Thurs 24 July	Royal Welsh Underhand Handicap	£4.00 per team	
	New South Wales S/B Handicap	£4.00	
	Welsh Under Hand Championship	£4.00	
	Welsh Standing Block Championship	£4.00	
	Welsh 3 Board Tree Climb Championship	£4.00	
	The New Zealand Trophy Under Hand 13ins	£4.00	
	Two Man Sawing Championship	£4.00	
	Single Man Sawing Championship	£4.00	

**NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:**

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**TEL NO:**

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**CYMDEITHAS AMAETHYDDOL FRENHINOL CYMRU CYF  
ROYA L WELSH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY LTD**

**THE ROYAL WELSH POLE CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIPS  
21 - 24 July 2008**

PLEASE RETURN TO:

Mr Andrew Mills, Great House Villa, Nantmel, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 6EF.  
(Telephone entries accepted) Tel: (01597) 825 833 / 825 473

**Ceisiadau Olaf / Entries close : 7th July 2008**

The Royal Welsh Show will be holding Handicap Pole Climbing competitions. This is to give the lesser competitor a chance of winning and also to encourage climbers to take part in all races.

COMPETITION	TICK ENTRY
<b>Monday 21st July -</b> Handicap Climbing Competition (80ft) Handicap / Ladies (Please delete category, not applicable)	
<b>Tuesday 22nd July -</b> Open Speed Competition (80ft) Experts / Intermediate / Ladies (Please delete category, not applicable)	
<b>Wednesday 23rd July -</b> European Open Pole Climbing Championships (100ft) Handicap Climbing	
<b>Thursday 24th July -</b> Handicap Championships (100ft)	
Medical conditions of which the Emergency Services should be aware (i.e. allergies, epilepsy, Diabetes, Rare blood groups etc).	
Caravan Park Accommodation – Book with Mrs Gittoes (Newbridge) Tel: 01597 860 203	

Enw / Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cyfeiriad / Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Côd Post / Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Rhif Ffôn / Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Information for commentary: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Jobs, length poleclimbing,  
best time etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY TO COMPETITORS**

The term 'Competitor' shall include all persons taking part in Poleclimbing Competitions at the 2008 Royal Welsh Show. Save for death or personal injury caused by breach of its duty, the Society will not be responsible for death, injury, disease, damage or loss caused to any competitor from whatever cause may arise. Save as aforesaid the competitor shall indemnify the Society against all claims, damages and expenses whatsoever in any way arising out of the presence of the competitor and shall assume full responsibility therefor.

**DECLARATION BY COMPETITOR**

I agree to make this entry at my own risk and subject to the regulations and instructions of the Society's Competition officials. I further agree to notify the Society of any medical condition which might be to the detriment of my ability to take part in the Pole Climbing competitions, and full and effectually indemnify the Society from or against any claim or action in respect of any personal injury I might sustain taking part in this competition.

**SIGNED** ..... **DATE** .....