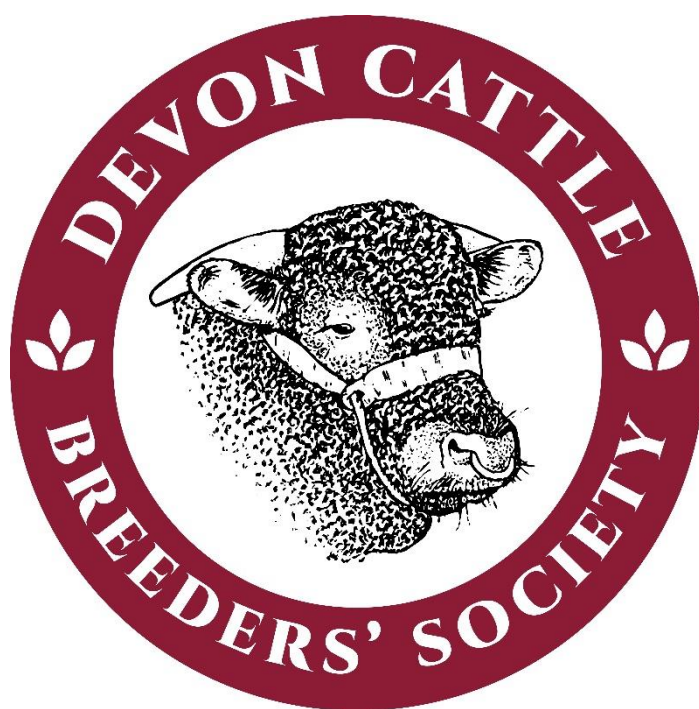




Devon Cattle Breeders' Society

JUDGING GUIDANCE & CODE OF CONDUCT



Updated 14th January 2026

Guidance to Judges

Under current Society rules, DCBS Judges are permitted to judge one Multi-day AND one One-day per annum. In addition, Judges may also judge at the Society's Yearling Show and bi-annual Show & Sales, in the same year.

Under current Society rules, on reaching the age of 75, a DCBS Judge shall be placed on a separate Society recommended Judging Panel and will be eligible for selection to judge One-day shows, Society Show & Sales, and Society Yearling Show.

Society Judges under the age of 21 are ineligible to judge Devon Classes at Multi-D Shows.

It is of course an honour and a privilege to be a Judge and one should respect the occasion and always behave in a proper and professional manner.

Before The Show

- **As a Judge you should contact the Show Secretary well in advance of the show to confirm times and exchange mobile phone numbers in case of travel problems on the day.**
- **Allow ample time for travelling to the show, parking etc. Arrive in plenty of time, calm and collected. A stress-less judge will enjoy the day and as a result exhibitors will enjoy their day too.**
- **Do NOT travel to shows with exhibitors or their helpers, or their relatives.**
- **On arrival, meet your steward and confirm the order of judging and the ring in which you will be judging.**
- **Do NOT go anywhere near the cattle lines before judging and do NOT converse with exhibitors.**
- **Under current Society rules, it is not permissible for exhibitors to enter an animal which has been bred by the judge. Adhering to this rule is first and foremost the responsibility of the exhibitor. However, if as the judge, you become aware that an animal bred by you is entered in classes which you are judging, inform the steward immediately and inform him that the animal should be withdrawn from the class.**

Dress Code

- **Be smartly dressed, with Society tie. Ladies may prefer to wear a society lapel badge if a tie is not suitable for your outfit. Appropriate footwear should be worn. Wellingtons & trainers are not considered appropriate.**
- **For a Multi-day show, a bowler hat is optional but recommended.**

On The Day

- Refrain from talking to people around the ring during judging
- Remember that you are judging the animal in front of you on the day. Judges must not allow themselves to be influenced by any other factors such as who bred the animal or who is exhibiting the animal.
- If asked to go onto the microphone, thank the show for inviting you, and above all be precise and clear in saying why you put animals in the order that you did. Praise the animals, focus on the things you liked about the animals in front of you, and always avoid making negative comments.
- After judging it is important to make a point of going into cattle lines to talk to every exhibitor. Whilst exhibitors may only have 20 minutes in the show ring, they will have spent many hours preparing for the show, regardless of their position in the line-up. A few words of advice and encouragement from the Judge can make all the difference between a good day or a disappointing one. For new exhibitors, a few words from the judge is invaluable in both encouraging them to continue showing, and in helping them to learn and improve from every outing.

Code of Conduct and Behaviour

The Devon Cattle Breeders' Society is committed to maintaining the highest standards of conduct and professionalism at all events. These Behaviour Guidelines set out the expectations for members, exhibitors, their staff, and helpers when representing the Society at shows, sales, and other official functions.

General Principles

- All members, exhibitors, staff, and helpers must act in a manner that reflects positively on the Devon breed and the Society.
- Courtesy, respect, and consideration should be shown to fellow exhibitors, Society officials, judges, stewards, event organisers, and members of the public.
- No action should be taken that could bring the Society or the breed into disrepute.
- Compliance with all Society rules, show regulations, and sale conditions is mandatory.

Exhibitor and Staff Conduct

- Exhibitors and their staff must conduct themselves professionally at all times. Aggressive, abusive, or disruptive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Verbal or physical abuse towards judges, stewards, officials, other exhibitors, or members of the public is strictly prohibited.
- Exhibitors are responsible for the behaviour of their staff, helpers, and associates.
- Members and exhibitors must not use social media or other communication platforms to make derogatory, abusive, or defamatory remarks about the Society, its officials, judges, other members, or competitors.

Breaches of Conduct

Any breach of these Behaviour Guidelines may result in disciplinary action by the Society, including but not limited to:

1. Verbal or written warnings
2. Suspension from shows or sales
3. Withdrawal of membership privileges
4. Disqualification of animals from competition or sale

By entering cattle in a show or sale under the auspices of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society, all members, exhibitors, staff, and helpers agree to abide by these Behaviour Guidelines.

The Society thanks all members for their commitment to upholding the proud reputation of the Devon breed.