

BUCKS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Introduction

The Bucks County Show is an Agricultural show held annually at Weedon Park Aylesbury. Bucks County Agricultural Association (a Company Limited by Guarantee No. 2525580), whose Registered Office is No. 5 Lilies, High Street, Weedon, Bucks, HP22 4NS is the tenant of the show ground and vehicle parks used for the Bucks County Show during August and for up to two weeks following the date of the Show.

Policy Statement

Bucks County Agricultural Association accepts its responsibility for providing and maintaining, so far as is reasonably practicable, at all times during the setting up, running and dismantling of the Bucks County Show, an environment which is both safe and healthy for all.

To this end The Bucks County Agricultural Association will take all steps within its powers to meet its responsibilities under The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and all other legal requirements for Health and Safety, and actively seeks the full and understanding co-operation of all persons involved in the show for their commitment to the same.

The Bucks County Agricultural Association will annually review this policy as required by the Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974.

Signed 

Chairman Basil Cooper

Date 25th January 2024

The above policy covers all employees and volunteers working for or on behalf of the Bucks County Agricultural Association and these persons are required to take all reasonably practicable steps to comply with this policy. In addition to this the following persons have specific responsibilities.

ORGANISATION

Responsibilities of President

This is an "Honorary" Role with no designated responsibilities for the management of the County Show.

Responsibilities of Chairman and Show Committee

The Chairman and Show Committee shall have overall responsibility for all aspects of Health and Safety and shall, so far as is reasonably practicable, ensure that everybody under their control is familiar with the Bucks County Agricultural Association's Safety Policy and arrangements. The Chairman and Show Committee will encourage at all times the co-operation of all members, stewards, exhibitors and members of the public for their commitment to the same.

Responsibilities of Show Secretary

The Show Secretary will work under the guidance of the Chairman and Show Committee to carry out day to day administrative tasks necessary for the organising and running of the show including liaison with the health and safety advisor, contractors etc.

Responsibilities of Safety Adviser

The Safety Adviser shall be responsible in conjunction with the Chairman and Show Committee for preparing and revising (as appropriate) the Health and Safety Policy for the Bucks Agricultural Association and in addition shall:

- Provide guidance, appropriate training and advice on Health and Safety matters.
- In conjunction with the Chairman and Show Committee shall promote safety consciousness at all levels.
- Liaise with Medical, Fire Authority, HSE, Local Authorities and other appropriate bodies both before the show day and as appropriate during the show and afterwards.
- Carry out a pre- show inspection of the site (If possible in conjunction with the enforcing authorities)
- Be available during the show to monitor compliance with the Show's safety requirements and to be the point of contact for health and safety matters.
- Investigate and record all significant accidents/incidents and provide statistics for the Chairman and Show Committee.

- In addition to the above the Safety Adviser has the authority to require the cessation of unsafe practices where this is considered essential.
- Where a requirement to stop an unsafe practice is not complied with, the Safety Adviser will liaise with the Chairman/Vice chairman to deal with the problem.

Responsibilities of Assistant Safety Advisor

To assist the County Show Safety Advisor in his role and deputise as appropriate. **(In the absence of the Safety Advisor, the Assistant Advisor will liaise with the Chairman.)**

Responsibilities of Nominated Stewards:

**Car Park/Gate Steward
Home & Garden Steward
Main Ring Steward**

**Horse Steward
Catering Steward**

**Cattle Steward
Sheep Steward**

These persons have specific responsibilities as listed above and in addition will assist with the implementation and enforcement of the Health and Safety Policy and arrangements and Event Management Plan, and will liaise with other stewards, the Health and Safety Advisor and Chairman/Vice Chairmen in dealing with emergencies and major incidents at the Bucks County Show.

Responsibilities of other volunteers/stewards

These persons will attend appropriate “briefing sessions” and familiarise themselves with the overall site layout. They will work with their “Nominated Steward” and the Management Committee to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable the safe operation of the Show and will assist the above persons as appropriate in dealing with issues or incidents which may arise during the course of the show. (E.g. emergency evacuation of the site.)

Responsibilities of Security Contractor

As noted above overall responsibility for health and safety rests with the management committee. As the Bucks Agricultural Association is a registered charity, the majority of tasks will be carried out by volunteers under the direction of the management committee, however because of the specialist skills and qualifications required for security work the association employs specialist SIA contractors (BHPSS) to patrol the site overnight leading up to the show and to work with the management team and stewards (and if necessary police officers) CPSOs) to manage security/crowd issues on the show day. (See Crowd Control Policy) Reporting lines will be through central control.

Responsibilities of Traffic Management Contractors

Owing to the size and complexity of the issue of traffic management on Show Day the preparation of a traffic management plan and the actual management of traffic (including signage) has been allocated to competent contractors. These contractors will work with the management committee and representatives of the Police and Traffic Authority as appropriate. (See Traffic Management Plan)

Responsibilities of Exhibitors Contractors and Trade Stand Holders

All persons taking part in the operation of the show (exhibitors, trade stand holders, contractors etc. have a shared responsibility to ensure that they comply with the requirements of this safety policy and arrangements.

HEALTH AND SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS

Risk Assessments

It is a requirement of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 that employers should identify and assess and control the significant risks generated by their undertaking. In order to fulfil this obligation the Bucks County Agricultural Association will carry out and record Risk Assessments for the overall Management of the Show. This duty also extends to contractors and stand holders.

In order therefore to fulfil this obligation all stand holders and contractors will also be expected to provide a risk assessment “appropriate to the level of risk for their particular undertaking”. This Risk Assessment must cover the risk from fire, entry onto the showground and erection and dismantling of the stand if appropriate.

Stand holders will be provided with a risk assessment form and guidance on completion when applying for a pitch. This form must be available on Show day for random checks. Advice may be sought from the office or the Show’s Safety Advisor if required.

Construction Design and Management Regulations

The Client, Principal Designer and Principal Contractor will be the Bucks County Show in conjunction with the Designers and Contractors listed below.

Pre-construction phase

Elements of the preconstruction planning for the Show commences almost immediately following the previous event. The various Landlords, local authority and traffic management departments, Bucks Police and the Fire Service will be consulted through the Safety Advisory Group (SAG). Contractors are appointed on their previous knowledge of the events industry and having worked with the Show. The Show attends Safety Advisory Group Meetings during the year. There are no significant changes to contractors for the 2023 Show.

Construction and dismantle phases

The key contractors for the site who will form the Project Team are the following:

Meadow Marquees, D&P Toilets, Tuckwell Contracting

Each of the above is responsible for their area of work and for communicating and co-operating with each other when on site. As the Show builds there will be a number of other non-construction related contractors who will work with the above contractors.

The event is not a notifiable project under the CDM (Construction Design and Management) Regulations 2015

There are no public footpaths running across the Show site which require closure during the event. There is a public footpath which runs adjacent to the site. Public are known to walk across the site and the Land Owner will inform public of Show and its build via messages and signage. Also see section on traffic movement and pedestrians

Exhibitors who book space only plots are considered as separate construction projects under the control of those exhibitors. In effect these traders rent a piece of land for the duration of the Show. Exhibitors are responsible for appointing their own competent contractors and for complying with the CDM Regulations.

All contractors contracted by the Show receive a copy of the site rules to enable them to complete an induction with their workers.

Sanitary arrangements are available ten days prior to the Show.

Bucks County Show monitors its contractors on an outcomes basis taking into consideration the key principles of the revised Regulations which are:

- To eliminate or control risks so far as reasonably practicable
- To ensure work is effectively planned
- To appoint the right people and organisations at the right time
- To make sure everyone has the information, instruction, training and supervision they need to carry out their jobs safely and without damaging health
- To have systems in place to help parties co-operate and communicate with each other and co-ordinate their work and
- To consult with workers with a view to securing effective health, safety and welfare measures.

The Show does have copies of the insurance certificates, risk assessments and where appropriate method statements for those contractors appointed above which are available in the Show Office.

Any accidents or incidents that occur on site must be reported to the Show Organiser.

Any working practices deemed to be unsafe will be stopped where identified and will not continue until safe systems of work have been applied. The above systems of work have worked well for a number of years and there have been no problems.

Electricity

Electricity at 240 volts, single phase, is supplied to several parts of the showground from the public supply and /or portable generators.

All electrical equipment must be approved by the Show's official contractor prior to use. Temporary low voltage distribution systems of 415 volts or less on the site will be subject to the 'Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 and associated legislation'.

Anyone who provides electrical apparatus for their own or anyone else's use must, before it is connected to the supply, ensure that it is maintained as required by the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 and if appropriate arrange for its inspection / test by a competent person or the Show's official contractor. Spot checks will be carried out by show officials and any equipment found to be faulty will be confiscated.

All equipment shall be connected to the supply through a Residual Current Device (RCD) and all cables and connections where not protected by a weatherproof structure shall be of such construction, or protected as necessary to prevent danger arising from exposure.

Socket outlets should not be overloaded and extension leads used only where really necessary and should not create a trip hazard.

Generators

Any generator used on the show ground must be notified to the Secretary and may be subject to random checks throughout the period on site. Generators should be sited on a secure platform away from all flammable materials. Fuel for generators must be stored in suitable sealed containers out of direct sunlight. Quantities of fuel must be kept to a minimum. All installations must comply with relevant legislation and guidance.

Underground and Overhead Electrical Services

Exhibitors are warned of the danger from the distribution of high and low voltage systems throughout the show ground and are asked to check on their position both above and below ground before erecting marquees, stands, flagpoles etc. Trade stands that are sited above the main underground cable will have notification with their badges. A plan showing the location of this cable is available for viewing in the Secretary's Tent. Trade stands must liaise with secretary as to whereabouts of any "extensions" on their stand.

Underground Water Services/Potable Water

The showground is supplied with potable water via a system of permanent underground pipes supplemented with a temporary system which is installed by a competent plumbing contractor in the weeks leading up to the show. In order to ensure the water is of a suitable quality, guidance will be taken where appropriate from BS 8551 (The Provision and Management of Temporary Water Supplies (Code of Practice)) and appropriate water quality tests will be carried out prior to the show day by a competent contractor. A plan showing the location of underground water pipes is available for viewing in the Secretary's Tent and it is the responsibility of all contractors, exhibitors and stewards to make themselves aware of these.

NO DIGGING MUST TAKE PLACE WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE ASSOCIATION

Water

A plan showing the location of underground water pipes is available for viewing in the Secretary's Tent and it is the responsibility of all contractors, exhibitors and stewards to make themselves aware of these.

Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG)

Gas bottles may not be used in enclosed spaces, including tents.

Any full or empty cylinders not in use must be kept in an adequate store. No LPG should be kept inside any structure the gas should be piped to the appliance being used. The pipe work should be rigid whenever possible with the shortest possible length of tubing used. All installations must comply with relevant legislation and guidance. All gas appliances must have been subject to an inspection by a Gas Safe Engineer within the last 12 months. Cylinders in use must be in a secure upright position.

Catering/Sale of Foodstuffs

All static and mobile caterers must ensure that they comply with all the relevant Food Hygiene and Labelling Regulations. The person in charge of the catering operation is to make sure that staff who handle food are supervised and instructed and/or trained in food hygiene in a way that is appropriate for the work which they do.

It is recommended that a food hygiene certificate is held by one or more staff as this will show that the persons handling or preparing food have knowledge of food hygiene and allergens.

All caterers should be aware that Inspectors of AVDC Environmental Health Departments will make inspections prior to, and during events, to ensure that food operators understand and comply with the relevant legislation.

Temporary Structures

All temporary structures including marquees, buildings, information boards, fences and gates must be soundly constructed, erected and safe for their intended purpose and comply with any relevant current guidance. (Standard guidance is available in the Institution of Structural Engineers document "Temporary

Demountable Structures: Guidance on design, procurement and use.”) **Exhibitors must give regard to the stability of their exhibits and ensure that they are secured against collapse.**

Where appropriate (e.g. in the case of marquees etc.) contractors will be asked to provide details of safe wind loading to enable suitable action to be taken in the case of adverse weather. All marquees under the control of the show committee are erected by “Meadow Marquees” and a representative from this company is available on site to deal with any problems or give advice for the duration of the show.

Hazardous Substances

No pesticides or other substances hazardous to health should be kept on show stands; exhibitors should display only new, empty containers.

Fire Prevention

An overall fire risk assessment of the showground is carried out by the Show’s Safety Advisor as required by the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 and all structures provided by the Agricultural Association (Member’s Marquee, Cattle Marquees etc.) will be provided with appropriate fire extinguishers and signage. However, exhibitors, in particular those providing their own tentage or temporary housing must also as part of their overall risk assessment assess the risk from fire, and must bring their own fire extinguishers on to the showground at the time of setting up, and keep them on the stand for the duration of the show. Exhibitors bringing their own tentage must ensure that it has been treated with a suitable fire retardant, and in the case of a large marquee, a plan showing all fire exits must be submitted for approval by the Health & Safety Adviser.

Fire extinguishers must be sited in a prominent position and in full view.

Exhibitors must have available extinguishers which are most suited to the risks.

Exhibitors should note that fire extinguishers will be subject to random checks and any stand without a suitable extinguisher will be closed down.

All static exhibits must be erected in a way that ensures they do not present a risk to any persons during the event (including erection and dismantling).

All exhibitors must take into account the requirements of the “Work at Height Regulations” when erecting or dismantling structures.

Machinery

Specific risk assessments must be provided by the exhibitor for any operation or demonstration of machinery.

Machinery must only be operated or demonstrated in areas fenced off from the public. Operators must cease their activities should any person encroach into a danger area. When positioning ropes, fences or barriers to restrict access into potential danger areas, an adequate margin of safety must be observed. Particular care must be taken to assess and control the risk to persons from materials which may be ejected from machines.

Plant and machinery must only be operated and demonstrated after ensuring that adequate precautions are taken to protect the operator and bystanders. Operators will be told that unsafe operation will not be allowed and may lead to possible legal action by the relevant enforcing authority.

Any plant, machinery or equipment used prior to, during, or after the show should be operated by an adult who is fully trained in its safe use. Use by inexperienced or untrained persons under 13 is prohibited.

Passengers must not be carried on vehicles and machines unless designed or adapted for that purpose. No child under the age of 13 may ride in any self-propelled agricultural vehicle.

All personnel operating the machinery must be experienced, adequately trained and competent in their use. The HSE Guidance Sim 01/2001/04 Health and Safety Guidelines for Agricultural Machinery Working Demonstrations will be used for displays of static and machines in motion.

http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/sims/ag_food/1_01_04.htm

The correct protective clothing and equipment must be worn at all times when participants or exhibitors are engaged on any activity for which protective equipment is required, for instance when using a chain saw.

All such protective clothing and equipment must comply with the requirements of the Personal Protective Equipment at Work (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (PPER 2022).

Motor Vehicles

◆ Motor vehicles must be driven with great care and a **5-mph speed limit** observed on the showground.

- ◆ Between the official opening and closing times of the show only authorised vehicles will be allowed to be driven on the showground. (8am – 6pm)
- ◆ No motorcycles, cycles, ATVs or any other vehicle may be taken on to the show avenues without prior authorisation.
- ◆ Persons driving ATV's (All terrain vehicles/Quad bikes) must wear suitable protective helmets and be competent in the handling of the ATV. A copy of an ATV competency certificate should be available if requested.
- ◆ No vehicle may be demonstrated or exhibited in any of the show avenues.

Livestock

- ◆ Exhibitors and stock attendants must be fully aware of their obligations for the safety of the general public and fellow exhibitors and stock attendants at all times whilst on the show ground and must observe orders given by stewards or officials when leading stock to and from the Judging Rings.
- ◆ In the interests of safety, unauthorised movement of animals during the show is not allowed. All cattle must be accustomed to being halter led and at least one competent person must attend each animal during its movement to and from the Show Ring, remaining as far as possible, behind the movement barriers provided.
- ◆ Exhibitors must control and take every care when moving animals and endeavour to segregate the public from their animal when moving through the showground. It is advisable to provide two handlers for each bull in the Grand Parade and all bulls over 10 months old must have rings in their noses and be led with poles, ropes or chains.
- ◆ All exhibitors of bulls should make themselves familiar with AIS35(rev1) Handling and Housing Cattle. This Guidance Note gives the following methods for handling bulls at events:
 - ◆ Two people, one using a bull pole attached to the bull's nose ring, and the other using a rope attached to the halter or head chain through the nose ring.
 - ◆ Two people both using ropes or chains, one rope or chain attached to a halter, the other either attached directly to the nose ring or via the nose ring to the halter;
 - ◆ One person using a bull pole attached to the bull's nose ring and a rope or chain attached to a halter or head chain through the nose ring with a competent person standing by able to assist in the control of the bull if required;
 - ◆ One person using a rope or chain attached to a halter with a second rope or chain attached directly to the nose ring or via the nose ring to the halter, with a competent person standing by able to assist if necessary.
- ◆ The stewards and Show Vet have the power to refuse the entry of any animal which they consider might get out of control or to ask for any animal to be removed from the show ground.
- ◆ Exhibitors and stock attendants must take every precaution to protect visitors to the livestock lines from injury.
- ◆ Any bull over 10 months old being led on the show ground **must** be accompanied by **two** handlers at all times. Young persons should not be allowed to handle bulls.
- ◆ Cattle must be halter tied through the rails, binder twine or string must not be used to tie cattle. The use of any substance containing toxic chemicals, including sheep dips is strictly forbidden whilst on the show ground.
- ◆ Exhibitors of horses should familiarise themselves with any rule or guidance notes issued by the appropriate authority or society which control the particular activity and they must comply with these standards.
- ◆ Horses must not be ridden, exercised or schooled in the car parks, trade stand avenues or other areas to which the general public has access but only in the area designated. No one is allowed in the collecting ring who is not a rider or bona-fide groom.
- ◆ Anyone riding a horse or pony on the showground must wear protective headgear of a current standard approved by their appropriate governing body.

- ◆ Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times, and are not permitted on the showground before the show unless prior authorisation has been given by an official. This applies to exhibitor's dogs as well as those belonging to visitors.

General Hazards

- ◆ Fire hazards exist throughout the showground. Smoking is prohibited in all marquees. Where no smoking signs are exhibited this will be strictly adhered to, and anyone found breaking this regulation will be asked to leave the showground.
- ◆ Guy ropes and tent pegs are used throughout the showground and care must be taken to avoid these.
- ◆ Children are at particular risk during the setting up and taking down periods and are strongly discouraged from being brought to the ground at these times, and at all times should be supervised by an adult.

EMERGENCIES

Fire

Evacuate people from the area of the fire immediately. Clear the surrounding area. Report the Fire to the Secretary's tent, from where the fire brigade will be called. Keep spectators well clear of the area.

Accident/Injury.

The priorities are:

- ◆ The safe treatment of the injured persons.
- ◆ Immediate action to prevent a re-occurrence.

St. John Ambulance personnel are on the showground at two First Aid posts. Paramedics are available on radio and can be contacted via Central Control. **Details of all accidents/incidents must be reported to the safety advisor and the Secretary via Central Control and recorded as soon as possible after the accident.**

The Safety Adviser will be responsible for investigating incidents/accidents and will work with the management committee to carry out any necessary remedial actions.

Escaped Animal.

All available stewards to assist in recapture by isolating the area from members of the public and ensuring all exit gates are closed. The Senior Steward present to take charge and recapture the animal with the exhibitor owner and a small number of stewards. After recapture a decision to be made as to whether the animal should remain on the show ground.

Bomb Threat (or any "Mass" hazard).

Contact the Police, via Central Control. Treat as genuine unless Police advise otherwise. Clear people from the area.

SHOW CONDITIONS

It is understood that all exhibitors, contractors, stewards, grooms and all other personnel will abide by the Show Conditions in addition to the Health & Safety Requirements laid down in this Policy and the Schedule

H&S/Statement H&S 2024

**PLEASE RETAIN THESE REGULATIONS AND STATEMENT FOR YOUR
INFORMATION**