NBCC 'JUDGING SEMINAR',
BLACKSMITHING COMPETITIONS
~6th MARCH 2027~









Rules & Conditions; 6th March (Saturday) 2027, NBCC 'Judging Seminar' and NBCC Qualifying Competition

~ NATIONAL BLACKSMITHS COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE (NBCC) CHAMPION BLACKSMITH OF THE YEAR ~

The 'NBCC Judging Seminar' is one of ten NBCC Competitions held around the UK. Points awarded at this Show, will contribute towards the 'Overall' NBCC Static Champion of the Year and NBCC Live Forging Champion of the Year.

(Class 2) 'NBCC Judging Seminar' Live Forging Champion 2027 (WCOB certificate & £250) 10 points

(Class 2) 'NBCC Judging Seminar' Reserve Live Champion 2027 (WCOB certificate & £125) 4 points

(Class 3/Class 4) 'NBCC Judging Seminar' Static Champion 2027 (WCOB certificate & £250) 10 points

(Class 3/Class 4) 'NBCC Judging Seminar' Static Reserve Champion 2027 (WCOB certificate & £125) 4 points

~ JUDGES SCORECARD INFORMATION FOR ALL CLASSES (1-5) ~

Competitors, please consider the following. Judges Scorecard: Forging (40 points), Construction (20 points), Finish (10 points), Design (20 points), Creativity (10 points).

~STATIC CLASSES (3, 4 & 5) ~

1. All entries in classes 3, 4 & 5 must be original, made solely by the competing blacksmith (individual, not multiple individuals). Any previous work that has won, is not eligible for any NBCC championship points. If a piece has previously won a prize, it can be entered into an 'exhibition' class.
2. It is advised that any wall hanging items (lights, brackets, Mirrors, etc) must have the necessary additional supports (trestle, back board, support or table mounting).
3. Due to the static location/area, heavier items must be manageable to be manoeuvrable up multiple flights of stairs. Item's must be able to fit through several standard household doorways.
4. All entries to be delivered by 8am Saturday 6th March 2027 & remain on display until prize giving. Any entries removed (without permission) will result in disqualification from show. Along with forfeiting show money and prize cards. Entries can be delivered on the Friday 5th March 2027 in the afternoon (4pm – 5pm).
5. Judging commences at 9am Saturday 6th March 2027 for Classes 3. 4 & 5. Place Cards will be displayed in the afternoon.
6. The committee can't accept responsibility for any losses or damage. Competitors enter at their own risk. However, care will be taken by stewards & judges when pieces are exhibited.

~LIVE CLASSES (1 & 2) ~

1. PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) must be in good condition and used whilst working at the Forges and in. ***Safety Glasses must be worn when competing.*** Any competitor that refuses to wear the necessary PPE will be disqualified.
2. It is prohibited to be intoxicated or to be drinking alcohol in the forged areas, any food must be eaten away from the competing areas. If caught whilst intoxicated or drinking, you will be escorted off site.
3. All competitors must bring their own steel, materials (supplied for student set piece) & tools. ***NO*** power tools, pre-worked materials or pre-shaped profiles (Plasma cut shapes, including discs).
4. Judging for Classes 1 & 2 will take place upon completion of the specific class, refer to 'Agenda'.
5. Competitors are required to report to the chief steward/associated steward's ***20 minutes*** before the starting time of their class and must be ready to commence work at the time notified. Time will not be compensated for lateness or any type of disorganisation.
6. For any competitors competing in Class 1 (Student Set Piece), colleges (National School of Blacksmithing, Hereford Arts College, Plumpton College, Brinsbury College, Kingston Maurward College, Moreton Morell College, Myerscough College, SRUC Oatridge College). Distanced Colleges can undergo simulated time constraints, timed by a ratified college tutor. Entries can be sent via post (NBCC will not take responsibility for cost or any damages/loss of entries), prior to judging on the 6th of March 2027.
7. Competitors may submit only one entry for the live classes. Each piece must be made within the time limit specified for its class.

~ALL CLASSES (1-5) ~

1. Judges word and decision is final; feedback can only be obtained after prize giving & results have been finalised/ratified.
2. Any competitor wishing to lodge a judging objection must do so in writing with a £10 deposit. The Committee will consider each objection, and their decision shall be final. Any complaint must be formally acknowledged by the stewarding team by the end of award/prize giving. Any objections after that won't be considered.
3. As a competitor you are expected to respect the judges, stewards and other competitors.
4. Classes 2, 3 & 4 are only eligible for NBCC championship points.
5. Any additional entries after payment of x3 entries, the rest are free of charge. Student competitions are free.

Schedule; 6th March (Saturday) 2027, NBCC 'Judging Seminar' and NBCC Qualifying Competition

~ CLASS 1; STUDENTS OR APPRENTICES LIVE FORGING - To produce a test piece (pattern enclosed) ~

Set Piece; '**Fred Dibnah's, Steeplejack - Ladder Staple'**. Design supplied by – Josh Masey AWCB

Time allowed – 60 Minutes

Entry fee (Website form); FREE (1 entry only)

Prize Money; 1st - Chez Chescoe 'Inter College' Trophy & £40, 2nd - £20, 3rd - £10. (Prize cards 1st – 6th)

Judge; Don Mallett AWCB LWCB CWCB

Competitors, please note that this is **NOT** an NBCC qualifying round

~ CLASS 2; OPEN/PROFESSIONAL LIVE FORGING – Available to all working Blacksmiths OR Blacksmithing Students ~

Theme; **'Industrial Revolution'** - Create a piece of ironwork in 90 minutes that has a direct or associated link to the given them.

The only method available is fire and hammer. Specialist hot-working tooling is allowed. Flux is allowed. **NO** power tools are allowed. **NO** strikers are allowed. Competitors must provide their steel; some steel will be available on the day.

Time allowed – 90 minutes/1 hour & 30 minutes

Entry fee (Website form); £5 (1 entry only)

Judge; Don Mallett AWCB LWCB CWCB

Prize Money; 1st - £40, 2nd - £20, 3rd - £10. (Prize cards 1st – 6th)

Competitors, please note that this is an NBCC qualifying round

~ CLASS 3; OPEN STATIC – TRADITIONAL ~

Traditional methods only, any item of work encompassing traditional techniques (I.e. Riveting, collaring, Fire welding & Mechanical connections). Design can either be traditional or contemporary. Methods must **NOT** include welded elements (I.e. MMA/MIG/TIG).

Entry fee (Website form); £5 per entry

Prize Money; 1st - £40, 2nd - £20, 3rd - £10. (Prize cards 1st – 6th)

Judge; Andy Hall FWCB

Competitors, please note that this is an NBCC qualifying round

~ CLASS 4; OPEN STATIC – CONTEMPORARY ~

Any piece of work, including unorthodox design. All methods of construction are welcome (I.e. MMA/MIG/TIG). Sculpture and jewellery are also permissible.

Entry fee (Website form); £5 per entry

Prize Money; 1st - £40, 2nd - £20, 3rd - £10. (Prize cards 1st – 6th)

Judge; Andy Hall FWCB

Competitors, please note that this is an NBCC qualifying round

~ CLASS 5; STUDENT/APPRENTICE STATIC – Any Student item/article of ironwork ~

All methods of construction are welcome, Traditional OR Contemporary Methods are allowed.

Applicable for any current student/apprentice in any formal educational training, related to Blacksmithing/Metalwork. Any student/apprentice that has been in training in the previous 3 years since qualifying is also eligible for this class.

Entry fee (Website form); FREE

Prize Money; 1st - £40, 2nd - £20, 3rd - £10, (Prize cards 1st – 6th)

Judge; Andy Hall FWCB

Competitors, please note that this is **NOT** an NBCC qualifying round

Agenda; 6th March (Saturday) 2027, NBCC 'Judging Seminar' and NBCC Qualifying Competition

8:00am – 8:30am

- Committee, judges, and competitors members turn up.

- Registration and log of static/live entries *(Room 12)*. Judges provided with relevant material (Scorecard and handbook).

8:45am

- NBCC Chair Andy Waight welcome judges, competitors and students.

- Quick introduction to competitors from Chief Steward Josh Masey AWCB.

9am – 10 am

- Student Live Forging Competition.

- Additional registration for Open live for those traveling far.

- Open Static (NBCC 1st Round) & Student Static judging commences (Judge; Andy Hall FWCB).

10:15am – 11:45am

- Open Live Forging (NBCC 1st Round) commences.

- Labelling finalised, judging of Student live commences (Judge; Don Mallett AWCB LWCB CWCB).

12:00 (Noon) – 12:30pm

- Labelling finalised, judging of the Open/professional live forging competition commences (Judge; Don Mallett AWCB LWCB CWCB).

12:30pm – 13:15pm

- Lunch for everyone, tea & coffee will be available, facilities for eating available (Alfie's Kitchen/burger van on site).

13:15pm – 2:30pm

- Group judging of the exhibited, scorecard analysis and judge's standards. Hosted by Adrian Legge FWCB LWCB.

2:30pm – 2:45pm

- Tea break for everyone, tea & coffee available.

2:45pm – 4:30pm

- Finish up of group decision, Q & A for any judges or competitors.

- Quick comments by the judging panel for the day.

- Sponsorship thanks.

- Prize/award ceremony **(3:45pm)** led by Nick Bates, Josh Masey AWCB & Andy Waight (NBCC Chairman)

- Farewell round up (4:00pm).

4:45pm

- End of seminar & clean up.

Company Sponsors; 6th March (Saturday) 2027, NBCC 'Judging Seminar' and NBCC Qualifying Competition

Herefordshire and Ludlow College/National School of Blacksmithing - The Centre for Rural Crafts

Holme Lacy Campus, Holme Lacy, Hereford, HR2 6LL. Tel: - 01432 870 316

National Blacksmith Competition Committee Secretary — Mr Keith Mahoney AWCB, The Pound,

Bromham, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 2HF

The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths (Sponsoring Champions & Reserve Champions)

(The Clerk)- Lieutenant Colonel Michael White TD VR 9

Little Trinity Lane, London EC4V 2AD

Bob Tunks

The Guild of Wrought Ironwork Craftsmen of Wessex

(Master of the Guild) – **Don Mallett**

MovieMetal LTD – Sponsoring, Prize Glasses, Mugs & Prize Cards (Nick Bates/Burrows Lea Forge)

Andrew Waight - Solent Streetworks Consultants Limited, Enterprise House, Ocean Village, Southampton SO14 3XB

Adrian Legge FWCB LWCB

Steve Miller FWCB