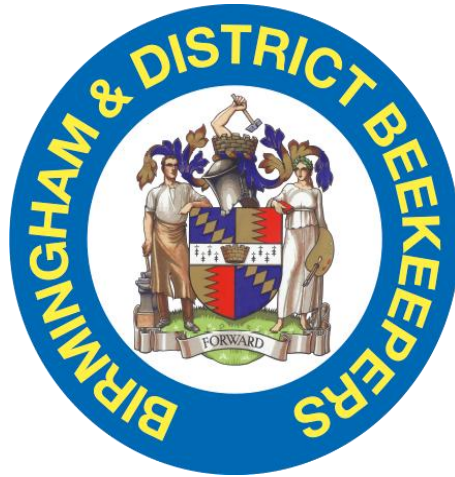




BIRMINGHAM & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

2026 OPEN HONEY SHOW AND COMPETITION

HELD AT

Winterbourne House & Gardens

Edgbaston Park Road.

Birmingham,

B15 2RT

ON

SATURDAY 12th & SUNDAY 13th September

Saturday: 10:30 – 16:30

Sunday: 10:30-15:30

Judges: Deborah Smith, Elaine Hargreaves and Paul Moorhouse

REGULATIONS FOR EXHIBITORS

1. Entries must be submitted via the following means:
 - A. Online [Online Entry Form](#)
Entries via the online form will close at midnight on Saturday 5th September 2025.
 - B. An electronic entry form provided in the schedule and must be received by the Show Secretary no later than midnight of Saturday 5th September 2025.
Email: Honey_Show.birmingham@wbka.org.uk.
 - C. Entries in person will close 11th September at 18:00.
If entries are received after 5th September, the labels can only be collected during delivery of exhibits at the venue or in person.
2. Exhibits must be delivered to the venue between 16:00 and 18:00 on Friday 11th September.
3. Exhibitors must make sure that they have entered the correct class as we will be unable to make amendments once you receive your labels.
4. Exhibitors may not enter more than two exhibits in any one class and no single exhibit may be shown in more than one class. Any exhibitor shall not be entitled to more than one award in any class. Exhibitors may, of course, enter all relevant classes, with 1 or 2 entries.
5. Exhibitors must be members of the BBKA in an appropriate category.
6. Novice Class 1-3 – restricted to beekeepers who have not won a first prize in a honey class at any open show or more than three first prizes in a branch show.
7. Every article exhibited must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor, at the time of gathering, from bees tended by the exhibitor. All honey and wax must have been produced from flowers by bees in the natural way.
8. Extracted honey must be exhibited in standard 454g squat jars (with the exception of Classes 21 and 23) of clear glass with metal screw lids (gold colour). Weight will be assessed by the NHS volumetric method and colour will be graded with BD grading glasses.
9. Mead must be exhibited in a clear glass wine bottle(s) without decoration or fluting, and closed with a cork stopper with a white plastic flange (with the exception of Class 23).
10. Gift honey will become B&DBKA property upon entry and must be accompanied by a label suitable for sale enclosed in an envelope, marked with an entry number label. Exhibitor may choose to buy back their honey at a cost of £10 which must be paid for when entering. Gift honey and/or proceeds of buy back will be donated to St Mary's Hospice.
11. Cut comb to be presented in clear see-through containers.
12. Frame for extraction must be presented in a bee-proof container. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to ensure the container is properly sealed (this includes adding sticky tape to the top edge of the glass, for safety reasons). Failure to do so will see the exhibit removed and disqualified from the competition.
13. The Judges have the power to reduce the value of, or withhold, all prizes where they consider exhibits are deficient in merit.

14. The Judge's decision is final.

15. Points will be awarded for trophies as follows:

1st – 6 points, 2nd – 5 points, 3rd – 4 points

Very highly commended – 3 points,

Highly commended – 2 points

Commended – 1 point

16. All ordinary care will be taken of exhibits, but the Committee will not be responsible in any circumstances for loss or damage sustained by the exhibitors in any way whatsoever.

17. Photograph: bee-related subject. Black and white or colour print mounted on A4 card of any colour. May be titled (this to be attached to the mount above the photo) and the entry label to be affixed at the front, in the bottom righthand corner of the mount.

18. Prize giving at 14:00 on Sunday 13th September.

19. **Labelling** of jars and bottles to 20mm from bottom of container to lower edge of label.

Class 8: one label to the righthand corner on each of the see through lids.

Class 9: attach label to lower edge of candle, if this does not cause a fire risk or on the holders.

Class 13: one label on top of frame and the other top righthand corner of display case.

Class 16: as per regulation 17.

Class 21: the six entry labels should be affixed to the rear of the jars. On staging, the first jar should be turned so that its class label is to the front. Where exhibits are displayed on a plate and covered in a polythene bag, one label should be affixed to the front of the plate, clearly visible and not obscured by the exhibit. The other label should be placed on the polythene bag in the top righthand corner of the bag.

20. Attractive Display (Class 23) Guidance

The base size of the display not to exceed 18 inches square (46cm) and may be of any reasonable height consistent with stability and safety.

Four constituent items for display to be chosen from the list of seven as follows:

- a. A container of liquid honey
- b. A container of soft set or crystallised honey
- c. One container of cut comb (min 150 grams)
- d. One container of mead
- e. Six beeswax blocks each a minimum of 28g
- f. One plain beeswax block minimum 150g
- g. One beeswax candle of any shape – to be lit. The candle must be in a holder.

BIRMINGHAM & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**ENTRY FEE £1 per entry****Prize money will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place to the value of £5, £4, £3 respectively****OPEN CLASSES****Class**

1	NOVICE - One 454g jar of any (light, medium or dark) liquid honey (excluding heather honey)
2	NOVICE - One 454g jar of naturally granulated or soft set honey
3	NOVICE - One block of wax (min 20mm thick, and between 227g and 255g)
4	Two 454g jars light honey
5	Two 454g jars medium honey
6	Two 454g jars dark honey
7	Two 454g jars naturally granulated or soft set honey
8	Two containers, each containing 200g minimum cut comb honey (net weight, including the container)
9	Two matching plain beeswax candles mounted in suitable holders. One to be lit during judging
10	Six beeswax blocks, each approx. 28g (+/-5g) and uniformly shaped. The total weight 138g-198g. A plate and polythene bag will be provided for staging.
11	One 75cl bottle of dry mead
12	One 75cl bottle of sweet mead
13	One frame of honey suitable for centrifugal extraction, or cut comb
14	Cake as recipe – open to family members
15	Gift – one 454g jar of any colour honey (option to buy back at £10)
16	Black/white or colour photograph – open to family members
	MEMBERS' CLASSES
17	Two 454g jars light honey
18	Two 454g jars medium honey
19	Two 454g jars dark honey
20	Two 454g jars naturally granulated or soft set honey
21	Six jars of honey (min. 227g, max. 454g) all of one type & size labelled as for public sale, except no lot numbers or security labels are required.
22	One 454g jar clear honey (any colour) and plain block beeswax. Minimum thickness 20mm, and minimum weight 227g.
23	Attractive Display - see regulation 20 for details

Birmingham & District Beekeepers' Association TROPHIES

The **Honey Pot Cup**, for the best exhibit in the Novice Class 1-3.

The **Highbury Cup**, for the best Novice (most points scored by a Novice).

The **City of Birmingham Challenge Cup**, for most points awarded to the winner of most points in the open classes.

The **EWT Morris Memorial Bowl**, for the runner up with most points in the open classes.

The **Birmingham & District Challenge Cup**, for most points in members' classes.

The **South Birmingham Cup**, for the runner up with most points in members' classes.

The **Haden Cup** for best honey for sale.

The **C L Ballard Cup** for Cut Comb, Class 8.

The **Dutton Cup** for Dry Mead, Class 11.

The **Mrs Mann Cup** for Sweet Mead, Class 12.

The **W C Hart Cup** for Comb Extraction, Class 13.

The **George Handley Bowl**, for Honey Cake Class 14.

The **Birmingham Post & Mail Challenge Cup** for Gift Class, Class 15.

The **Geoff Kershaw Trophy**, for Photography, Class 16.

The **Stan Dolphin Trophy** for members' Class 22.

The **President's Cup** for members' Class 23.

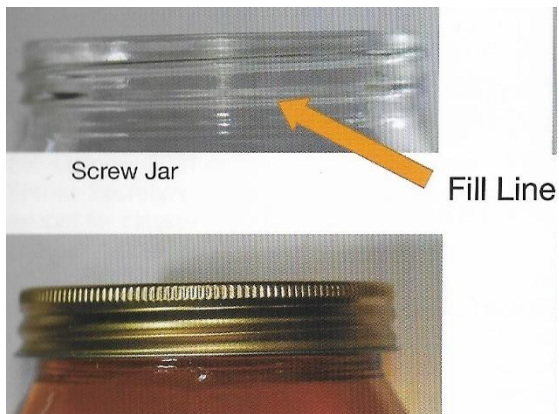
BBKA Blue Ribbon awarded by Judge for best in show (dependent on number of entries).

Note: The definition of a novice is an entrant who has not won a first prize in the Honey Classes at an Open Honey Show or more than three first prizes in a branch show.

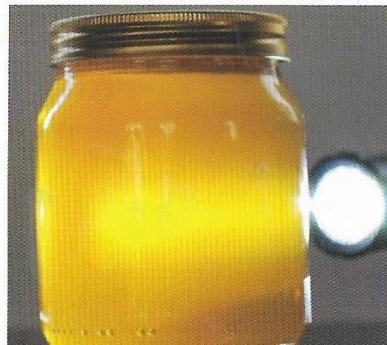
Honey Cake Recipe: 140g Butter, 168g Clear Honey, 1 tablespoon of water, 112g soft brown sugar, 2 eggs, 196g self-raising flour. Oven temperature 180⁰ C or 350⁰ F or Gas Mark 4.

Method: Place butter, sugar, honey and water into a saucepan and heat until the fat has melted, stirring all the time. When fat is melted remove pan from heat and allow contents to cool to blood temperature. Gradually beat in the eggs. Add sieved flour and mix until smooth. Do not over mix. Pour mixture into greased and lined 180mm (7") cake tin and bake for 1 hour or until risen and firm to the touch.

Advice for filling your honey jars ready for exhibiting



Fill your jar to the fill line – there should be no air gap between the top of the honey and the bottom of the lid.



A few exhibits are marked down by the judge because of incipient granulation. Exhibitors are advised to use a torch to ensure clarity of the exhibit.

Birmingham & District Beekeepers' Association
2026 Honey Show & Competition
Entry Form – Fee £1 per entry

CLASS	DESCRIPTION	NO. OF ENTRIES	LABEL NUMBER	RECEIVED
Open Classes				
1	One 454g jar of any (light, medium or dark) liquid honey (excluding heather honey)			
2	One 454g jar of naturally granulated or soft set honey			
3	One block of wax (min 20mm thick, and between 227g and 255g)			
4	Two 454g jars of light honey			
5	Two 454g jars of medium honey			
6	Two 454g jars of dark honey			
7	Two 454g jars naturally granulated or soft set honey			
8	Two containers, each containing 200g minimum cut comb honey			
9	Two matching plain beeswax candles			
10	Six beeswax blocks			
11	One 75cl bottle of dry mead			
12	One 75cl bottle of sweet mead			
13	One frame of honey suitable for centrifugal extraction, or cut comb			
14	One honey cake, as per recipe			
15	Gift honey, one 454g jar of any honey *Do you want to buy back your gift honey? YES NO			
16	One photographic print			
Restricted Classes: B&DBKA Members Only				
17	Two 454g jars of light honey			
18	Two 454g jars of medium honey			
19	Two 454g jars of dark honey			
20	Two 454g jars of naturally granulated or soft set honey			
21	Six jars of honey (min 227g, max 454g) all of one type and size labelled as for sale			
22	One 454g jar clear honey (any colour) and plain block beeswax. Minimum thickness 20mm, and minimum weight 227g			
23	Attractive Display			
Total number of entries				
* I wish to buy back my Gift Class(es) and enclose correct fee (£10 or £20)				
Total entry fee				

Name:.....

Address:.....

Email address.....Telephone no.....

I am a member ofAssociation. I am/not a novice (delete as necessary)

Entry fee payments can be made by bank transfer to: BDBKA, Sort Code: 40-52-40 account no. 00009560. Put your name in the reference when sending in your entry form.

Please complete the online entry form: [Online Entry Form](#)

If needs be, email your entry form to: honey_show.birmingham@wbka.org.uk by midnight Saturday 5th September. Entries in person (including paper copies) will close on Friday 11th September at 18:00 at Winterbourne House and Gardens.