The Monaro Stationhand Challenge

Detailed Background information to successfully compete

1. Assessment and classing of commercial sheep

1.1. Visually assess and score 10 commercial merino ewes according to AWI/MLA Visual Sheep Scores, Version 2 – 2013. Handbooks will be available for use & return on the today. The handbook is available on line at:
https://www.wool.com/globalassets/wool/market-intelligence/woolcheque/characteristics/2013_visual_sheep_scores_commercial_awi_mla.pdf

Participants will asked to score each sheep on wool colour, wool character, dust penetration, staple structure and non-fibre pigmentation. Participants will be provided with a score sheet.

1.2. Objective data will be provided for the 10 ewes, participants will be required using both the objective provided and the visual assessment conducted in 1.1 above class ewes into Studs, Flock and mate to terminal sire. The objective data for the 16 ewes in the team from which the 10 competition ewes will be selected is attached

1.3. Condition Scoring. The 10 ewes are to be condition scored. Condition scoring is explained at this site
http://www.lifetimewool.com.au/conditionscore.aspx

Participants will be provided with a score sheet. An example is attached with the visual scoring sheet

2. Ram Selection using ASBVs

Using a set of breeding objectives for a property, subjective data and ASBVs (to be provided) for ten rams, the stationhand has been asked by his employer to attend a local annual stud ram sale and purchase three rams. The stationhand is to select the three rams and a reserve selection that best meet the specified breeding objectives for the farm. This is a paper exercise.

The ASBV pocket guide can be downloaded here
http://www.google.com.au/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjJzNHvivDnAhXTmuYKHcCEBkgQFjAAegQIAxAB&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.sheepgenetics.org.au%2Ffiles%2Fbca9de99-a36e-4b15-b982-a9cf00ee0b7e%2F2018_Pocket-Guide.pdf&usg=AOvVaw0Q9eAdvwA90x15xz-QFW9c

3. Woolclassing

Class and score four commercial fleeces commercial fleeces in accordance with the National ASA Merino Fleece Judging Championship Handbook.

Attached is an example score sheet.

4. Weed assessment

Assess a number of stationery displays and exhibits of weeds. Participants will be asked to identify, using common names, a number of weed and pasture species from photographs, live and preserved species.

References:
Snowy Monaro regional local weed management plan
https://www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au/DocumentCenter/View/7780

"Weeds of the Monaro" handbook

5. Grain assessment

Assess a number of grain and pasture samples will be provided in static displays and participants will be asked to identify the sample and any issues or problems with the sample.

6. Cattle judging

As part of the local cattle judging competition, visually judge a number of select animals

7. Bull Selection using EBVs

Using a set of breeding objectives, subjective data and EBVs (to be provided), the stationhand has been asked by his employer to attend a local annual stud bull sale and purchase three bulls. The stationhand is to select the three bulls and a reserve selection that best meet the specified breeding objectives. This is a paper exercise.

8. Pest Animal Management

Identified a number of pest and feral animals from photographic and static displays of tracks and scat

References: *South East Regional Strategic Pest Animal Plan 2018 – 2023.* *https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/820789/20180702-south-east-pest-plan.pdf*

Tracks, Scats and Other Traces A field Guide to Australian Mammals. Barbara Triggs.

9. Legal and WH&S multiple-choice exam

A 15 multiple choice exam on general knowledge, regulatory, legal and WH&S aspects that apply to a modern farming operation.

Entry Fees

Entry Fees are $5 for the junior stationhand category, $15 for the jackaroo/jillaroo and senior stationhand classes.

Ribbon & Prize Pool

The entry fees will form part of the pool of prize money in conjunction with donations from sponsors. Detail of the total prize pool will be provided prior to the competition.

Each category winner (junior, Jillaroo/Jackaroo, & senior/overseer) and the runner up will receive a winner's sash

Each category winner (junior, Jillaroo/Jackaroo, & senior/overseer) will receive an inaugural trophy

Registration

Pre-registration is preferred so that numbers can be managed and that you receive background information essential for participation. Those that register on the day may not be admitted to the competition if numbers are excessive.

Pre-registration can be undertaken by sending an email to:robguthrie59@gmail.com

Please state in the subject line "Monaro Stationhand Challenge Registration". In the body of the email provide Name, age category, and mobile number.

Participant Briefing & Background

All participants are required to attend the pre-competition briefing commencing at 8:30 AM outside the sheep pavilion on the day of the competition / Show.

	Wool COL 1-5	Wool CHAR 1-5	DUST Pen 1-5	Staple STRC 1-5	FPIG face smut eyelashes 1-5	Score Condition 1-5	Final Allocation S - Stud F- Flock T - Mate Xbred
170047							
170054							
170070							
170131							
170142							
170162							
170181							
170245							
170271							
170280							
170386							
170432							
170473							
179026							
179038							
179069							

Tag # 17 drp white tag	GFW Kg	GFW Rnk	GFW Dev	GFW %	Ave Mic	Mic Rnk	Mic Dev	Mic %	BWT kg	BWT Rnk	BWT Dev	BWT %	CF %	Top 20% All traits	Top 30% All traits	Top 50% All traits	Rank All Ranks	Rank GFW & Mic	Ec Val Rnk	Top 20% GFW & Mic	Top 30% GFW & Mic	Top 50% GFW & Mic	Top 10% Econ Val	Top 20% Econ Val	Elite Rnk	Individual Ewe Ranking by Station Hand
170047	2.26	497	-1.00	69.4%	18.5	411	1.3	7.6%	30.2	493	-9.7	75.6%	99.3	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	473	474	463	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	No	No	357	
170054	4.14	15	0.88	127.3%	15.6	44	-1.6	-9.2%	43.2	116	3.3	108.1%	100.0	No	Yes	Yes	4	1	9	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	49	
170070	3.76	66	0.50	115.6%	15.5	37	-1.7	-9.8%	45.4	54	5.5	113.6%	100.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	2	6	18	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1	
170131	2.28	496	-0.98	70.0%	15.8	62	-1.4	-8.1%	37.8	332	-2.1	94.6%	100.0	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	357	327	447	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	No	No	308	
170142	3.68	80	0.42	113.1%	15.6	44	-1.6	-9.2%	35.0	427	-4.9	87.6%	100.0	No	No	No	111	9	24	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	30	
170162	3.70	76	0.44	113.7%	16.1	89	-1.1	-6.3%	46.8	30	6.9	117.1%	100.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	6	21	43	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	92	
170181	4.68	2	1.42	143.9%	18.2	391	1.0	5.9%	52.8	5	12.9	132.2%	99.4	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	43	141	16	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	124	
170245	4.56	5	1.30	140.2%	16.5	145	-0.7	-4.0%	49.2	12	9.3	123.2%	100.0	FALSE	FALSE	Yes	3	14	11	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	10	
170271	4.74	1	1.48	145.7%	16.6	163	-0.6	-3.4%	48.6	16	8.7	121.7%	100.0	FALSE	FALSE	Yes	5	20	8	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	57	
170280	3.84	43	0.58	118.0%	16.1	89	-1.1	-6.3%	37.4	355	-2.5	93.6%	100.0	No	No	No	80	10	27	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	258	
170386	4.02	24	0.76	123.6%	15.7	52	-1.5	-8.7%	38.6	300	-1.3	96.6%	100.0	No	No	No	39	2	12	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	13	
170432	2.38	495	-0.88	73.1%	16.2	99	-1.0	-5.8%	54.0	2	14.1	135.2%	100.0	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	145	356	452	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	No	No	401	
170473	3.86	40	0.60	118.7%	17.6	312	0.4	2.4%	40.8	202	0.9	102.1%	99.9	FALSE	No	No	113	97	77	No	No	No	No	Yes	436	
179026	3.23	247	-0.02	99.5%	16.9	204	-0.3	-1.7%	40.4	221	0.5	101.1%	100.0	FALSE	FALSE	Yes	193	189	262	FALSE	FALSE	Yes	No	No	328	
179038	2.67	461	-0.58	82.2%	13.8	1	-3.4	-19.7%	36.2	397	-3.7	90.6%	100.0	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	346	204	4	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	Yes	Yes	33	
179069	4.03	23	0.78	124.1%	19.0	449	1.8	10.5%	43.8	92	3.9	109.6%	99.1	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	121	216	75	No	No	No	No	Yes	286	

Particpants Score to C/f

The following applies to GFW (greasy fleece weight), Micron (Mic) and Bodyweight (BWT)

Green traffic light = top 12.5.% for that trait in the drop of 510

Gold traffic light = sits between 50% and 87.5.% for that trait in the drop of 510

Red traffic light = sits below 50% (the average) andbut above 30% for that trait in the drop of 510

Black traffic light = sits below 30% for that trait in the drop of 510

Blue cell = in the top 40 for that trait in the drop of 510

Green cell = in the top 20% for that trait in the drop of 510

Red cell = in the bottom 30% for that trait in the drop of 510

The 10 ewes will be selected from this group of 16 on the day prior to the show

17 drp ewes Micron BWT

National ASA Merino Fleece Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

MONARO STATION HAND CHALLENGE

(Visual/ Physical Class)

COMPETITORS NAME:....................................   **CLASS:**..

Fleece No. 1

WEIGHT: ……………….   **YEILD:** ………………..

Property	Max Points	Description (Place points awarded in column)	Points Awarded
Style (AWEX I.D.)	12	Choice (MF1) 12 Superior (MF 3) 10 Spinners (MF3) 8 Best T/M (MF4) 7 Good T/M (MF5) 6	
Uniformity of length	10	Excellent 10, Average 6, Good 8, Irregular 5	
Staple strength	10	Sound 10, Tender 4, Part-tender 7	
Handle	10	Very Soft 10, Average 7, Soft 9, Harsh 5	
Colour or bloom	10	Very Bright 10, Creamy 6, Bright 8, Dull 4	
Crimp formation	10	Excellent 10, Irregular 5, Good 8, Plain 3, Fair 7, Poor 2	
Density	8	Excellent 8, Average 5, Good 7, Poor 4	
Clean fleece weight score	30		
TOTAL	100		

Fleece No. 2

WEIGHT: ……………….   **YEILD:** ………………..

Property	Max Points	Description (Place points awarded in column)	Points Awarded
Style (AWEX I.D.)	12	Choice (MF1) 12 Superior (MF 3) 10 Spinners (MF3) 8 Best T/M (MF4) 7 Good T/M (MF5) 6	
Uniformity of length	10	Excellent 10, Average 6, Good 8, Irregular 5	
Staple strength	10	Sound 10, Tender 4, Part-tender 7	
Handle	10	Very Soft 10, Average 7, Soft 9, Harsh 5	
Colour or bloom	10	Very Bright 10, Creamy 6, Bright 8, Dull 4	
Crimp formation	10	Excellent 10, Irregular 5, Good 8, Plain 3, Fair 7, Poor 2	
Density	8	Excellent 8, Average 5, Good 7, Poor 4	
Clean fleece weight score	30		
TOTAL	100		

Fleece No. 3

WEIGHT: ……………….   **YEILD:** ………………..

Property	Max Points	Description (Place points awarded in column)	Points Awarded
Style (AWEX I.D.)	12	Choice (MF1) 12 Superior (MF 3) 10 Spinners (MF3) 8 Best T/M (MF4) 7 Good T/M (MF5) 6	
Uniformity of length	10	Excellent 10, Average 6, Good 8, Irregular 5	
Staple strength	10	Sound 10, Tender 4, Part-tender 7	
Handle	10	Very Soft 10, Average 7, Soft 9, Harsh 5	
Colour or bloom	10	Very Bright 10, Creamy 6, Bright 8, Dull 4	
Crimp formation	10	Excellent 10, Irregular 5, Good 8, Plain 3, Fair 7, Poor 2	
Density	8	Excellent 8, Average 5, Good 7, Poor 4	
Clean fleece weight score	30		
TOTAL	100		

Fleece No. 4

WEIGHT: ……………….   **YEILD:** ………………..

Property	Max Points	Description (Place points awarded in column)	Points Awarded
Style (AWEX I.D.)	12	Choice (MF1) 12 Superior (MF 3) 10 Spinners (MF3) 8 Best T/M (MF4) 7 Good T/M (MF5) 6	
Uniformity of length	10	Excellent 10, Average 6, Good 8, Irregular 5	
Staple strength	10	Sound 10, Tender 4, Part-tender 7	
Handle	10	Very Soft 10, Average 7, Soft 9, Harsh 5	
Colour or bloom	10	Very Bright 10, Creamy 6, Bright 8, Dull 4	
Crimp formation	10	Excellent 10, Irregular 5, Good 8, Plain 3, Fair 7, Poor 2	
Density	8	Excellent 8, Average 5, Good 7, Poor 4	
Clean fleece weight score	30		
TOTAL	100		

Placings (Enter fleece number)**:**   1st ☐   2nd ☐   3rd ☐   4th ☐