



2023 NPA December Newsletter

2023 National Ploughing Championships



The attendance figure for the 92nd National Ploughing Championships came to a total of 200,550 visitors over the three days. Despite experiencing a very wet start on Tuesday, the overall mood for this year's Ploughing was incredibly upbeat and positive. With so much for visitors to enjoy from quality livestock & serious machinery to fashion, playground, innovations, crafts & cookery competitions and sports stars galore there was something for everyone to enjoy.

NPA extend congratulations to the 325 competitors who had the privilege of representing their county at the 2023 National Ploughing Championships and wish competitors the very best of luck in their qualifying matches for 2024.



2024 National Ploughing Championships & European Vintage Championships

The NPA are delighted to be holding the National Ploughing Championships in the central location of Ratheniska, Co Laois next year from Sept. 17th to 19th for the third year in a row. It worked well as a location this year despite the inclement weather conditions. Feedback from landowners, the local community and the wider public has been very positive and all were enthusiastic to see a return to Co. Laois.



As well as the National Ploughing Championships, NPA are delighted to be hosting the European Vintage Ploughing Championships next year, adding to what we expect will be three days of fierce competition.

Merry Christmas

'Irish Ploughing has never been so well represented on the global stage and is the envy of other nations'

5 Nations Competition



The victorious Rep. of Ireland team at the Five Nations Challenge in England in March. Michael Wycherley, Cork West was the overall winner in Reversible Class and Padraig Brandon, Laois was runner up in the Conventional Class.

The team who have qualified to represent Ireland at the 2024 Five Nations Challenge are Brian Ireland, Kilkenny, Frank Cullen, Wexford and Judge Michael O' Halloran. Venue and date to be confirmed.

European Reversible Ploughing Championships

A magnificent result at the European Ploughing Championships this year with Jer Coakley from Cork West winning the title of European Ploughing Champion and Dan Donnelly from Wexford securing the Reserve European Ploughing Champion position.

The competitors who have qualified to represent Ireland at the 2024 European Reversible Ploughing Championships are John Whelan, Wexford and Liam O'Driscoll, Cork West. Team Coach will be Gary Ireland, and Judge will be Joe Slattery. Competition will take place in France on 6th & 7th September.



World Ploughing Contest



Historic back to back wins for the Rep. of Ireland team at the World Ploughing Contest in Latvia with both Eamonn Tracey, Carlow & Wexford's John Whelan being crowned Supreme World Ploughing Champions in their respective classes.

The team who have qualified to represent Ireland at the 2024 World Ploughing Contest in Estonia on 16th & 17th of August are Eamonn Tracey, Carlow and Jer Coakley, Cork West. The team Coach will be Mick Roche and Judge will be Larry Bergin.

Thank You & Happy Christmas from the NPA

NPA would like to take this opportunity to thank our Landowners and Sponsors for their support in holding the 2023 National Ploughing Championships. We extend a special thanks to Directors, County Secretaries, Judges, Supervisors, Competitors, County Members and the many Volunteers who contributed in no small measure to making this event possible.

The NPA wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year and we look forward to returning to Laois in 2024.

Merry Christmas

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