



2025 NPA CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER



2025 National Ploughing Championships

The 94th National Ploughing Championships welcomed an impressive 225,500 visitors as the event returned to Scraggan, Co. Offaly. Exhibitors and attendees enjoyed a hugely successful three days, with highlights ranging from the All Ireland Ploughing Competitions and cutting-edge machinery to top-quality livestock, artisan food, fashion, and family entertainment. The very best of Ireland was on display, creating a vibrant atmosphere enjoyed by shoppers, agricultural enthusiasts, celebrities, and politicians alike.

Special congratulations to all the competitors who proudly represented their counties in the All Ireland Competitions this year. *“Every year it is inspiring to see the incredible talent and dedication from competitors of all ages. Ploughing remains at the very heart of the Championships, and it is wonderful to see such skill and passion on display.”*



2025 World Ploughing Contest

The Rep. of Ireland team delivered exceptional results once again at the 70th World Ploughing Contest, showcasing outstanding skill. Jer Coakley (Cork West) claimed the title of World Reversible Champion in Stubble and secured the Overall Runner-Up position. Martin Kehoe (Wexford) represented Ireland with distinction, finishing 8th overall in a highly competitive field. Congratulations to both competitors on their remarkable achievements!

Ireland will be represented in the 2026 World Ploughing Contest in Croatia, 5th & 6th Sept., by John Whelan (Wexford) and Eamonn Tracey (Carlow). Gary Simms will be coach, with Harry Mallon as judge. Best of luck to the team as they prepare for the competition!



2025 European Ploughing Championships

The Rep. of Ireland team performed brilliantly at the European Ploughing Contest. John Whelan (Wexford) set the pace on Day 1, earning first place and later securing the title of Overall Reserve Champion. Dan Donnelly (Wexford) excelled on Day 2, taking the top spot and ultimately being named the Overall Champion. Well done to both competitors on these outstanding accomplishments!



Ireland will be represented in 2026 at the European Ploughing Championships in Switzerland on 22nd & 23rd August by Dan Donnelly (Wexford) and Jer Coakley (Cork West). Enda Kelly will be coach, with Kieran Keohane as judge. NPA wish the team every success!



2025 Five Nations Ploughing Contest

Ireland enjoyed further success at the Five Nations competition. Eric Wickham (Wexford) took 2nd place in the Reversible Class while John Cotteral (Kilkenny) also performed strongly, taking 3rd place in Conventional. Well done to both competitors!



2025 Northern Ireland Ploughing Competition

The Republic of Ireland team delivered a strong performance at the Northern Ireland Ploughing

Liam O'Driscoll (Cork West) was crowned Reversible Champion, with Gary Simms (Donegal) taking 2nd in the Conventional Class and Matthew Simms close behind in 3rd. Congratulations to all on their excellent results!



2026 National Ploughing Championships

NPA are delighted to confirm that the National Ploughing Championships will return to Screggan in 2026 from September 15th-17th, following overwhelmingly positive feedback and strong support for a return to Co. Offaly.



Updates for 2026

- 2026 Five Nations Contest & Six Nations Vintage to run alongside the All Ireland Ploughing Championships.
- U23 Reversible Class introduced. Counties may enter up to two competitors total across the U23 & U28 Reversible classes, i.e. 1 × U28 Reversible + 1 × U23 Reversible, **OR** 2 × U28 Reversible, **OR** 2 × U23 Reversible.
- Ploughing enquiries: Clare – 059 8625125 / office@npa.ie

Thank You &

Happy Christmas from the NPA

NPA sincerely thanks our Landowners, Sponsors, Directors, Secretaries, Competitors, and Volunteers for making the 2025 Ploughing Championships a great success. Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

