

BLAA Competition for Allotment Members 2025

The Back Lane Allotments Association (BLAA) Committee are pleased to inform you that the Allotment Competition judging for members will be in the last week of June 2025.

There will be 3 categories :

- Best Allotment Cup
- Best Novice Cup (a novice being an entrant who became an allotment holder on or after 1st April 2023)
- Junior Garden Award (Under 16s)

2. A member will be judged on one plot only; a member may submit multiple entries for different plots.

3. The novice entry qualification is two judging years on a plot. Once a winner, the member cannot enter that category again on that plot.

4. Once a member has won a best allotment award, the member may NOT enter that competition for the next two years regardless of the plot. The aim is to keep interest for all members.

5. If you wish to opt out of the competition please notify us – committee@blaa.org.uk

6. The judges' decision is final.

7. Judging criteria is:

1. Quality of crops
2. Condition of plot
3. Good workmanship
4. Diversity of plot
5. Environmental practices
6. Planting layout

Judging details on next page

Rules & Guidelines for Allotment Competition

1. Quality of crops. Maximum points available = 40

Plants should be free from disease, pests and damage, A broad range of food crops and flowers should be in evidence with the available growing space taken into account.

2. Condition of the plot. Maximum points available = 20

Unplanted areas where crops have been harvested or about to be planted should be free from weeds and the soil should be of a good well cultivated condition.

3. Good workmanship Maximum points available = 15

Soil between crops should be weed free, paths and other areas should be neatly edged and

well maintained. Evidence of successional sowing will be given credit as so should good practise such as pinching out broad bean tips, protection from carrot fly. Intelligent use and sturdiness of plant supports where appropriate.

4. Diversity of Plot Max points available = 10

Structures, including cold frames and cloches, should be neat, clean and well maintained.

Use of plant supports crop protection also attract credit.

5. Environment friendly practices. Maximum points available = 10

Good use of compost bins, rainwater collection where possible and any other environmental/animal friendly practices will be given credit.

6. Planting layout Maximum points available = 5

Intelligent adaptation of the plot layout to suit the plot holder's needs, use of companion

planting, overall visual eMect, cultivation of less common plants and use of no-dig or deep bed methods will all be given credit, where evident.

Maximum total points available = 100.