



News press release

28th January 2025

NOTES TO EDITORS

National Irish Steak Challenge Facts

The National Irish Steak Challenge provides Independent Irish Butchers with a vital opportunity to highlight their product quality, breed credentials, and processing standards on a national platform.

This inaugural event took place at The Champions Hall, The Curragh, Co. Kildare on Sunday 26th January 2025

The Associated Craft Butchers of Ireland organised and managed the National Irish Steak Challenge.

The competition was broken down into 3 categories Fillet Steak, Ribeye Steak & Striploin Steak

For further details, visit:

Website: <https://www.craftbutchers.ie/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/craftbutchers/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AssociatedCraftButchersofIreland/>

Judging process background

Judging is impartial and carried out by a panel of over 30 experts, including meat scientists, master butchers, industry professionals, and specialized chefs. Notable figures on the judging panel included Sean Owens (IFEX Salon Culinaire Director) Darina Allen (<https://www.ballymaloecookeryschool.ie/>), Joe Burke (Bord Bia), Richie Wilson (Co-Chief of the World Steak Challenge and Culinary Director of Fire and Sole restaurants, <https://www.firesteakhouse.ie/>), John Relihan (<https://www.instagram.com/johnrelihan/?hl=en>), Dolan Heany, John Whelan (<http://thedevismenu.ie/>), Paul Haynes (<https://www.lacote.ie/menus-thecheekycod/>) to name a few

Each steak is evaluated based on its own qualities against established criteria. Technical assessments focus on two aspects: raw and cooked.

The scores from both the raw and cooked evaluations are combined to determine a total score.

The steak with the highest total score in its category is crowned Best Provincial Steak.

Provincial winners then participate in a cook-off to determine the best steak in Ireland within their category.

The Winners

FILLET & STRIPLOIN STEAK

Overall winner

Millar meats

32 Day Aged Fillet

Dry Aged Sirloin

11 Main Street, Irvinestown, Co. Fermanagh, BT94 1GJ, Tel: 028 686 21887 E: millarmeats@hotmail.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Millar-Meats-Irvinestown-100051164774815/>

Millar Meats and Fine Foods is a multiple award-winning business and has proudly served the community in Irvinestown and surrounding areas for a long number of years. Their name is synonymous with quality, rooted in a farming background and proven with many awards and accolades achieved over the last twenty years.

The fine food element is constantly updated to reflect the best in local products and fine foods that are of excellent quality. They are delighted to constantly bring new additions to this range.

RIBEYE STEAK

Overall winner

Kerrigan's Butchers

Kingsbory Irish Wagu Ribeye

barry@kerriganmeats.ie, shane@kerriganmeats.ie

www.kerrigans.ie

Founded in 1973. Kerrigan's are based in North County Dublin with 4 locations and offering next day delivery Nationwide. Kerrigan's are a proud member of The Craft Butchers of Ireland and are a Guaranteed Irish company which is our commitment to sourcing and ageing the best of Irish produce backed up with an insatiable appetite to the best customer experience both in store and online.

Provincial winners

Fillet Steak Provincial winners

Leinster: Brendan Bergin

Unit 7, Edenderry Shopping Centre, Edenderry, Co. Offaly

Ph: (046) 973 1180

<https://www.facebook.com/BerginsEdenderry>

admin@berginfamilybutchers.ie

Munster: Jim Crowley
Mill Road, Midleton, Cork
Ph: 01 461 3542
<https://www.jimcrowleybutchers.com/>
info@jimcrowleybutchers.com

Ulster: Millar meats
As above

Connacht: Kelly's of Newport
17 Main Street, Newport, Co. Mayo, F28 F953
<https://kellysbutchers.com/>
info@kellysbutchers.com
Ph: 098 41149

Striploin Steak provincial winners:

Munster: Fitzgerald's Butchers
Unit 2, Pearse House, Pearse Square, Fermoy, Co. Cork, P61 NN50
<https://fitzgeraldsbutchers.ie/>
fitzgeraldbro15@gmail.com
T: 025 31051

Ulster: Millar Meats
As above

Leinster: Callaghan Butchers & Deli
58 Market St, Townparks, Ardee, Co. Louth, A92 VK80
<https://www.facebook.com/p/Callaghans-Ardee-Butchers-Deli-100063795482165/>
P:(041) 685 3253
E: callaghanmeats1@gmail.com

Connacht: Morris Meats
Elphin, Co Roscommon
<https://www.facebook.com/morrismeatselphin/>
E: ronanmmeats@hotmail.com
Ph: (071) 963 5370

Ribeye Provincial winners:

Connacht: Kelly's of Newport
As above

Leinster: Kerrigan's Butchers
As above

Munster: Walsh Butchers
70 Main St, Cashel, Co. Tipperary, E25 E142
<https://www.facebook.com/walshsbutcherscashel/>
Ph: (062) 61165

Ulster: Millar Meats
As above