

National Koi Show

Committee Statement

Addendum - Fish Transport in Hot Weather Conditions

Wednesday 24th June 2026

Update to the National Koi Show statement on the current UK Heat Alerts, including the committee's confirmed reduction in vat point allocation and maximum fish limits as a proactive welfare measure.

Temperature Context

The Met Office Red Extreme Heat Warning remains in effect for Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 June covering central and southern England.

A Met Office Amber Heat Alert is now in place for Friday 27 June for the southeast of England, coinciding with the principal day of fish transport to the showground. The committee has taken this into account in its welfare planning.

Temperatures are forecast to reduce further on Saturday and Sunday, and the measures described in this statement are calibrated to reflect conditions on the day of transport.

Proactive Welfare Measure - Vat Points & Maximum Fish Reductions

At 1645 Wednesday the National Show Committee have confirmed the implementation of reduced vat point allocation across the show. Both the maximum number of fish permitted per vat and the total vat point allocation have been **reduced**.

2.5 metre vat - 36 max vat points / maximum fish in vat 9

2.8 metre vat - 46 max vat points / maximum fish in vat 11

This lowers stocking density, reduces the biological load on vat water, and provides additional headroom in water quality parameters at a time when thermal stress on fish is already elevated.

Exhibitors Who Have Not Received This Prior Notification

Any exhibitor who, for whatever reason, has not received or seen this communication prior to arrival at the show must agree with the benching team which fish will not be included in judging, bringing their entry within the applicable reduced vat point and maximum fish limits - Exhibitors are asked to cooperate promptly to avoid delay to show proceedings.

Dissolved Oxygen & Transport Best Practice

Warm water carries less dissolved oxygen than cooler water, and exhibitors are reminded to follow standard transport best practice:

- Double bag all fish and charge bags with genuine oxygen; air from air pumps must not be used.
- Keep journey times as short as practicable, use vehicle air conditioning, and keep bags out of direct sunlight during transit.
- When bagging fish, leave an oxygen air gap while ensuring the fish's gills remain covered by water.
- Showground vat aeration will run continuously before fish arrive.

Conclusion

Based on the current weekend forecast, the implemented reduction in vat point limits, and exhibitors observing standard transport protocols, the committee is satisfied that koi transport to the National Koi Show can proceed with appropriate welfare safeguards in place.

National Koi Show Committee

June 2026