



## **Colorado State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest**

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### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

#### **Entry**

Each county is invited to enter one 4-H and livestock judging team consisting of no more than four members. The three members with the three high scores will be counted for the team points; however, all individuals are eligible for individual awards. The team members will be selected in a manner determined in accordance with state 4-H policy. All entries must be submitted in accordance with the registration for the State 4-H Conference.

#### **Contestants and Eligibility**

- 1) Teams may be selected by any procedure which a county or area deems appropriate while complying with state 4-H policy. It is recommended that selection procedures, in writing be made available to all interested parties and participants.
- 2) At the Colorado State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, contestants must have past their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday and be no older than 18 as of midnight December 31 of the previous calendar year.
- 3) Contestants must be enrolled in 4-H in the county or area they represent or combined in accordance with state 4-H policy prior to April 15 of the current year.
- 4) At the Colorado State 4-H Conferences Livestock Judging Contest 4-H members may compete as individuals from counties that do not have full (3-4 members) judging teams and are eligible for individual awards only. Individuals must be properly entered in the contest.
- 5) At county contests, it is at management's discretion as to whether or not to allow combining of members from different counties in order to form teams for the purpose of team awards.
- 6) Colorado State 4-H Conference is a multi-dimensional educational and leadership event which has many opportunities for learning, competition, and socializing. Therefore, all contestants must register for State 4-H Conference and participate full-time, in order to be eligible to compete in the state contests.
- 7) Teams and individual members of that team, from a previous state winning team at the Colorado State 4-H Conference are ineligible to compete again on a livestock judging team at the State 4-H Conference. However they are eligible to compete as an individual in future years. Members of past state champion teams or

members who have represented Colorado at the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, may continue to compete at 4-H contests as individuals for individual awards only.

- 8) Contestants in 4-H competitive events must not have participated in official post-secondary (university, college, junior college or technical school) competitive events, of a similar nature in the same subject matter area to be eligible for participation in 4-H competitive events. Neither can that individual be a member of a postsecondary team undergoing training in preparation for a post-secondary event of the same nature. For example, a contestant who has competed in an official collegiate livestock judging contest, either on or off campus, is ineligible to compete in a similar 4-H livestock judging contest.
- 9) Alternates will be eligible to judge for individual awards.
- 10) Teams or individuals who win a state competition in more than one contest area may continue to compete in the contest area(s) in which they did not represent Colorado at a 4-H National Contest.

### **Method of Conduct**

- 1) A coach's meeting will be held prior to the contest at a time announced in the conference materials. At this time, instructions for the contest will be given. Coaches should be prepared to check the names, addresses and ages of contestants for the contest.
- 2) No contestant shall wear any clothing, pins or badges that will in any way reveal his or her identity or state he or she represents. Weather conditions may vary, so dress accordingly. No hats are to be worn during the contest.
- 3) The contestants will be divided into groups for the contest and will remain with the assigned group throughout the contest. While the contest is in progress, there shall be no conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone else except by the Superintendent or group leaders.
- 4) The contest will be comprised of 12 classes of livestock. All of these classes will be comprised of four animals and the animals will be designated by numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4. If possible, performance data and a situation statement of the class will be provided on breeding classes.
- 5) Reasons will be taken on six classes, 2 from each species. Contestants may use a clipboard and/or notepaper of their choice - notebooks should be clean and free of notes. Only a page to record placings on is permissible. Contestants are not permitted to use notes while giving oral reasons or answering questions. Reasons classes may be market, breeding, and/or performance classes.
- 6) Performance data will be limited to no more than 10 pieces of information. Performance data used will reflect current industry trends for that specific breed or type of animal. Performance data may be actual animal performance (such as growth) or genetic predictors (such as EPDs) or a combination of the two.
- 7) Two minutes will be allowed to give oral reasons to the official judges.
- 8) Contestants will be allowed 15 minutes per class to make their observations, make notes if necessary and fill out their placing card.
- 9) Breeding cattle will not be handled. Steers will not be handled. All judging will be done from a distance to insure proper viewing (10 to 15 feet).
- 10) Breeding sheep will not be handled when they are judged loose in a pen. If sheep are in racks (market or fleeced breeding sheep), contestants will stand in line and will be allowed 15 seconds to handle each sheep

individually.

- 11) Contestants will have a minimum of 20 minutes to prepare each of the six sets of oral reasons. Contestants will not be permitted to refer to any data or notes when delivering oral reasons.
- 12) All contestants and coaches are expected to be present for the Awards Luncheon.
- 13) Contestants will not be allowed to carry electronic devices on the floor while judging. This includes mobile phones, pagers, PDA's, and other device capable of transmitting information. If a contestant is found with a device, the contestant's cards will be pulled and the contestant removed from the contest.

#### **Superintendents**

- 1) It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to see that all rules and regulations of the contest are carried out. They shall decide all questions which may arise in connection with the interpretation of the rules governing the contest.
- 2) They shall have helpers to assist them.
- 3) They shall have charge of all records and shall have ratings tabulated and totaled.

#### **Clerks and Assistants**

The clerks, assistants and attendants shall be under the direction of the Superintendent and shall carry out all assignments in an orderly manner; and none of them shall confer with a contestant unless directed by the Superintendent.

#### **Judges**

- 1) A committee of judges will place all classes and hear and score all reasons.
- 2) The judges shall place the classes while the contestants are working in the area. The judges shall enter their placings on the placing card, indicate the cuts to be made, and file that card with the Superintendent.
- 3) During the reasons session, the judge will score the contestant when he or she has finished.
- 4) The official placings and cuts will be given by the judges immediately following the reasons session.

#### **General Information**

For specific contest details or questions, contact the Superintendent listed at the beginning of this packet.