

2024 State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest General Information

1. Rule regarding livestock judging as both a 4-H and FFA member

a. The following memorandum of agreement exists between 4-H and FFA:

"An individual may participate in the same 4-H or FFA contest provided the contest is not being conducted on the same day or in connection with the same event (i.e. State Fair or similar event). An individual who received advanced training following a state 4-H contest in preparation for national and/or regional competition is eligible to compete in the same FFA contest in the same year."

For example, 4-H members who qualify for and participate in Top 12 Week in 4-H livestock judging in 2024 can and may judge in the 2024 FFA livestock judging contest.

2. AGE DIVISIONS – Contestants will compete in the following two (2) age divisions:

Junior – members born in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015.

Senior – members born in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010.

Cloverbud – under 9 years of age. *Will place all 12 classes but will not be eligible for awards or results. Judging scantron will be collected from kids and distributed to coaches at end of contest.*

NOTE: A county must have at least three (3) members in an age division to be eligible for team competition. Participants from counties with fewer than three (3) members will be eligible for individual awards.

Overview of Tentative Schedule (All times are in Eastern Standard Time)

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

8:30 A.M.	Contest registration for all contestants
9:00 A.M.	Divide contestants into groups and give instructions
9:15 A.M.	Round 1 of livestock judging begins for all contestants
10:10 – 10:30 A.M.	End of Round 1 (First Set of Questions and Break all contestants)
10:30 A.M.	Round 2 of livestock judging begins for all contestants
11:25 – 11:45 A.M.	End of Round 2 (Second Set of Questions and Break all contestants)
11:45 A.M.	Round 3 of livestock judging begins for all contestants
12:15 P.M.	End of Round 3 (All Contestants) Contestants will pick up lunch coming off the floor and go to reason seats
1:00-3:30 P.M.	Oral reasons for Juniors
1:00-4:30 P.M.	Oral reasons for Seniors
6:00 P.M.	Awards Banquet

Have a Safe Trip Home

Agents are responsible for giving their contestants the following instructions

1. All contestants must have a #2 pencil. All contestants must bring their own notebooks, paper and/or clipboards for taking notes for oral reasons and questions. Junior contestants are discouraged from using their notes during reasons but may use their notes if necessary. Senior Contestants may not use their notes during oral reasons. Junior and Senior contestants may not use their notes while answering questions.
2. Contestants will be using a scantron sheet for all placings and question answers.
3. Team packets will be handed out during registration. Packets will include class lists, agenda, reason orders, scantron sheets, and team numbers. Contestants are responsible for placing their contestant name and team number on their scantron sheet.
4. The proper use of the scantron sheets should be reviewed with contestants before the contest date.
5. Juniors and Seniors will judge twelve (12) animal classes. Contestants will not be allowed to handle any animals during the contest (unless market lambs or market goats are provided as a class).
6. Juniors will give oral reasons on two (2) classes (one each on beef cattle and sheep) and will have two (2) questions classes (on either sheep, goats, or swine). Seniors will give four (4) sets of oral reasons (2 on beef cattle, and 1 each on sheep, and swine) and will have a two (2) questions classes (on either sheep, goats, or swine). Reasons and questions classes will be identified during the contest. **Senior and Junior Contestants will have a production scenario and some type of performance data and/or EPDs to aid in placing two classes. The scenario classes may or may not be reasons and/or questions.**
7. Contestants will be assigned to groups at the beginning of the contest. They must stay with their assigned group leader until all classes are judged. Only group leaders and ring stewards will be allowed in the contest area.
8. Since members from a county may be in the same group, there will be three or four (3 or 4) group leaders per group. Please instruct your members about not talking to anyone but a group leader. Contestants talking to anyone but a group leader may be disqualified.
9. Eight (8) minutes will be allowed for non-reasons/questions classes. Contestants will be allowed twelve (12) minutes to evaluate reasons/questions classes. Signals will be given to start the class and at various intervals to indicate time remaining. **Classes in the 1st and 2nd round will feature reasons and questions, therefore the classes in those rounds will last twelve (12) minutes. Classes in the 3rd round will feature placing only classes (non-reasons, non-question classes). Therefore round 3 will last eight (8) minutes per class.** Rounds are subject to change based on the classes available.
10. Lunch will be provided for all contestants during a break period in the contest.
11. Coaches and leaders should plan to meet their contestants at the conclusion of their contests (outlined in schedule).
12. The contest will start promptly at **9:15 A.M.** for all contestants. Once the contest has started, NO ADDITIONAL CONTESTANTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.
13. Contestants cannot have taken a post-secondary course in livestock evaluation.
14. **LIVESTOCK JUDGING TOP 12 WEEK is currently still being worked on at this time. Hope to have dates by the time of the contest. Everyone in the top 20 who receives a letter need to turn it in ASAP if they are attending or not.**