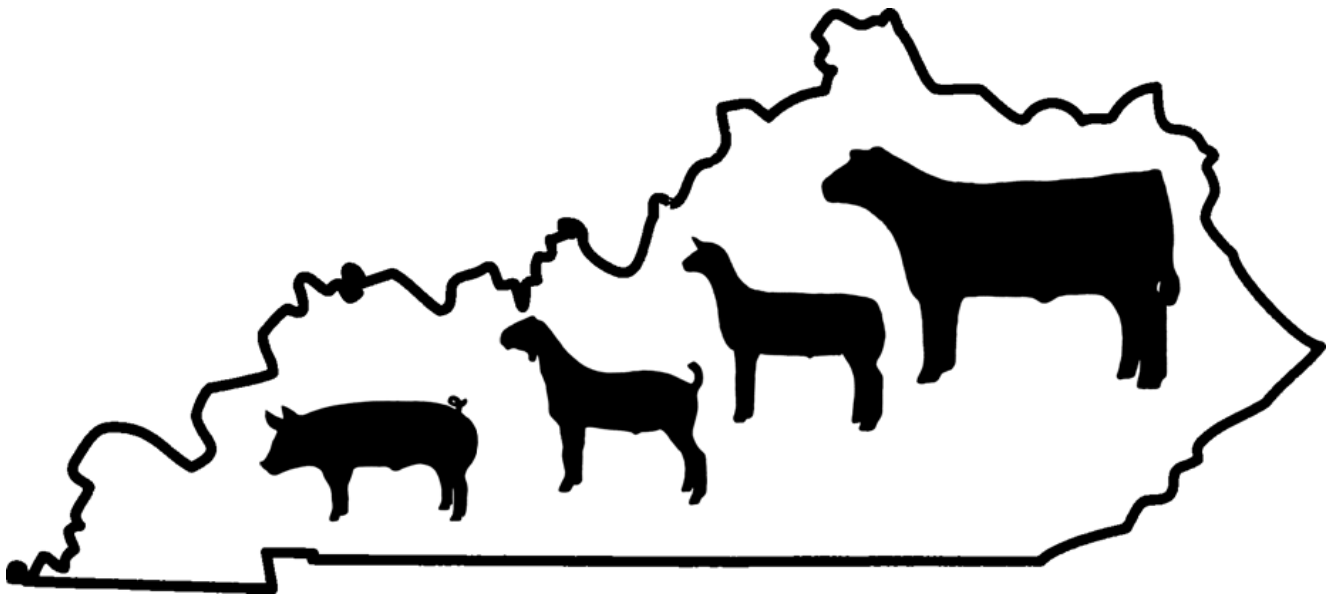


Kentucky 4-H Livestock Skillathon

2025 Rules



Saturday, February 15, 2025

L. D. Brown Ag Expo Center, Western KY University
406 Elrod Rd., Bowling Green, KY 42104



Kentucky 4-H State Livestock Skillathon Contest



Contest Date:

February 15, 2025

Location:

L. D. Brown Ag Expo Center, Western Kentucky University
406 Elrod Rd., Bowling Green, KY 42104

Rules and Regulations

Team and Contestant Eligibility

1. To be eligible to participate in the 2025 State Skillathon Contest, contestants must have completed their six (6) hours of educational training under the coordination of the local Certified Volunteer Leader prior to the State Skillathon Contest.
2. All Kentucky 4-H age youth (9-18) in good standing are eligible to compete. Junior and Senior contestants will compete in separate age divisions, and contestants must participate in their appropriate age division. The age breaks for the age divisions are as follows:
 - a. Junior – must have reached their 9th birthday, or be in the fourth grade in school, as of January 1 of the current year, and must not have passed their 13th birthday as of January 1 of the current year. **Parents will not be allowed to go through contest with their children.**
 - b. Senior – must have reached their 14th birthday as of January 1 of the current year, and not have passed their 19th birthday as of January 1 of the current year.
 - c. Cloverbud - Clover Buds may participate in the State Skillathon Contest. However, in remaining consistent with the Clover Bud Policy, activities for Clover Buds will be noncompetitive and no awards will be presented to Clover Buds. **This division will not be scored and they will be in their own group while going through the contest.**
3. Teams may consist of up to four (4) members, but only the top three (3) individual overall scores will be included in the team overall score. **Counties with more than four (4) contestants in a particular age division may have multiple teams, but the number of contestants per team may not exceed four (4).**
 - a. All members of a four person team will compete, but the member receiving the lowest overall score will automatically be declared the alternate. The alternate's scores will not be included in any of the team totals, but will be considered in making all individual awards.
 - b. Teams consisting of three members will not have an alternate and all members' scores will count towards individual and team awards.
4. The high placing Senior team will be invited to represent Kentucky at the National Skillathon Contest which will be held in November in Louisville, Kentucky. To represent Kentucky at the National Skillathon Contest, a Senior team must have four team members.
 - a. In the event a county with more than one Senior team competing at the State Skillathon Contest should win the State Skillathon Contest, that county may choose amongst all of its Senior age contestants in determining the youth that will compete at the National Skillathon Contest. However, only youth from that county that competed at the State Skillathon Contest are eligible for selection.
 - b. In the event a county with only three Senior (3) contestants [only one (1) team of three (3) Senior

contestants] wins the State Skillathon Contest, that team must pick up a fourth team member from another county to be eligible for competition at the National Skillathon Contest. The added team member must be a Senior age youth and must have competed at the State Skillathon Contest.

5. No member may represent Kentucky in an out-of-state NATIONAL Skillathon event in which he/she has previously participated. This includes the National Skillathon Contest in Louisville. Additionally, a member may not participate in the National 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest and the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest held in conjunction with the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville the same year. 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 and in the same subject matter area.
6. According to the last policy statement agreed upon by 4-H and FFA officials, “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)”.
7. This contest covers the understanding and practical application and the principles of Animal Sciences related to beef, sheep, swine, and goats.
8. For past years Skillathon Answer Sheets see: <https://afs.ca.uky.edu/4h-youth/meat-animal/livestock-skillathon>

Contest Method of Conduct

1. Contestants in the State Skillathon Contests shall check-in with the contest coordinator or their representative on the day of the contest at least **30 minutes** prior to the scheduled starting time.
2. Only contestants or those adults assisting with the contest (group leaders, card runners, contest officials, etc.) will be permitted in the competition area. **Parents will not be allowed to go through with their children.**
3. Contestants will be allowed ten (10) minutes to complete each of the eight individual competition classes. Teams will be allowed twenty (20) minutes to complete the team activities. **Teams will have (10) minutes to prepare and must present in the second (10) minutes.**
4. During the individual competition round, contestants will be divided into groups and will remain with that assigned group throughout the round of classes. While completing the individual competition classes, there will be no conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone else except as directed by contest officials. The team competition round will follow the individual competition round.
5. **Contestants will complete a scantron sheet for scoring the individual rounds of competition. Contestants should put answers on the scantron sheet during the allotted time. There will be 10 minutes at the end of the individual competition to make sure the scantron sheet is bubbled correctly. This is not the time to bubble the entire sheet there will not be time.**
6. Team members will complete one official answer sheet for each team class representing the combined effort of all team members. Teams will be allowed twenty (20) minutes to complete the group assignment for each class and turn in their answer sheet. During the team competition round of the contest, contestants will only be allowed to confer with their own team members during the time period allowed for each class. **Teams will have (10) minutes to prepare and must present in the second (10) minutes.**
7. **Everyone participating in the team activity will be seated with their team until it is time for their rotation through the team activities. The combined teams or individuals who want to experience the team activity will need to go last in the rotation.**
8. **Contestants shall not wear any hats.**
9. Contestants should bring a blank steno pad, clipboard, blank paper, calculator (simple 4 function), and writing

instruments (**#2 pencil is mandatory for scantron**). Contestants may not bring books, notes, pamphlets, reference materials, or cell phones into the contest area. **Contestants found in contempt of this rule will be disqualified.**

10. Contestants are not to pick up or touch any item that is being identified or evaluated in the individual competition classes.

Awards

Individual and team awards will be given in each age division, and will include:

- Top 10 individuals in Identification
 - Top 10 individuals in Evaluation
 - Top 10 Individuals in Quality Assurance
 - Top 20 Individuals Overall
 - Top 5 teams in Identification
 - Top 5 teams in Evaluation
 - Top 5 teams in Quality Assurance
 - Top 10 teams Overall
 - Recognition of first year participants
 - Top 5 9/10-Year-Old Division Overall
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