

NATIONAL 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

Superintendent – Dr. John Rayfield
Assistant Superintendent – Rusty Gosz
Management Committee Chair – Matt Gunderson and Vice-Chair – Bonnie Boyden
Assistant Superintendent For Awards – Heather Shultz
Additional Assistant Superintendents
Delbert O'Meara, John Parker

RULES AND REGULATIONS

ENTRY

Each state is invited to enter one 4-H Livestock judging team of three members. A team may also enter an alternate. When the alternate judges, the three members with the highest total scores will make up the state total. The contestant with the lowest score is eligible for individual awards. The team members will be selected in a manner determined by the State 4-H Program Leader. All contestants must be certified by the State 4-H Program Leader on entry blanks filed with the North American International Livestock Exposition by October 15TH. Due to Covid 19, states are encouraged to provide all available information with entry by October 15, including contestant information, the National 4-H Livestock Contests Code of Ethics, and supporting documentation of college transcripts and syllabus for Animal Science classes. However, due to uncertainties regarding rescheduled state contests this year, contestant names and supporting documentation will be accepted until November 1.

An entry fee of \$150.00 **must be paid on-line at the NAILE website.**

Each state that enters a 4-H livestock judging team is responsible for medical/accident insurance for all members of their team while traveling to and from the NAILE and during the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest and other events associated with the NAILE.

CONTESTANTS AND ELIGIBILITY

1. Contestants must be bona fide 4-H Club members approved by the 4-H Program Leaders of their respective states. State 4-H Leaders are responsible for determining the eligibility of participants in the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest from their respective states, particularly those who have completed high school prior to the contest.
2. Each contestant must have passed his or her 14th birthday and cannot have passed his or her 19th birthday by January 1st of the current year.
3. To be eligible to participate as a contestant in the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest at the North American International Livestock Exposition, an individual:
 - A) shall not have participated in **ANY** post-secondary (university, college, junior college or technical school) competitive event of a similar nature and in the same subject matter area. A competitive event is defined here as an event open to more than one educational institution (or it's students) in which scores are kept and awards are offered to any or all participants;
 - B) neither shall a contestant have completed or be currently enrolled in a postsecondary course related to visual livestock and/or carcass evaluation. Anyone who is listed on the Official Entry Form and is enrolled and/or received college credit in an Animal Science course(s) **MUST** submit the Syllabus for the class(es) with the entry materials. All information must be submitted to the committee's Vice-Chair no later than November 1. This includes copies of the entry forms and all other documents.
 - C) shall not participate in the North American International Livestock Exposition Junior College Judging Contest in the same year he/she is a contestant in the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest.
4. Contestants who have served as an official team member in the National 4-H Livestock Judging contest are ineligible to compete a second time.
5. Anyone who participates in the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest shall not be allowed to exhibit or show a beef and/or sheep animal at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) during the period of Nov. 15-19, 2019. The cattle and sheep youth must choose between exhibiting livestock at the NAILE or judging in the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest during this period, they are not allowed to do both. Youth as an individual can't exhibit or show a beef and/or sheep, however they can have a beef and/or sheep shown with a substitute exhibitor if the request is made by November 1st to Catherine Riley at the NAILE.

Violation of any of these eligibility rules shall disqualify all members of the entered team as contestants in this or future National 4-H Livestock Judging Contests held at the North American. Further, the coach will be barred from participation in the current, as well as, the following year's contest.

METHOD OF CONDUCT

Any amendment to the "Method of Conduct" section sent to State 4-H Leaders and/or their delegated contacts by July 1, 2020, will be in effect for the 2020 contest.

1. Contestants and coaches are permitted to visit the North American International Livestock Exposition starting on Saturday, November 14. However, they are required to stay out of the East Hall where the contest will be held and the West Wing and Hall where the beef cattle are located. All participants and coaches shall avoid the East Hall including hallways on Monday during the Senior Collegiate contest. Any violation could result in disqualification of the team. Contestants and coaches may visit the trade show and are allowed in the stands to watch the beef cattle show in Freedom Hall, (no individual listed on the entry form shall be allowed on the floor, showing or ring side of the Arena or in beef tie-outs). Teams may watch the sheep show from the stands only, Teams must go directly to stands and may not visit with breeders in the barns. Contestants and coaches must stay out of all beef and sheep stalling areas.
2. A coaches meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 16 in the Crowne Plaza, Louisville Airport Hotel, Meeting Room. At that time, the program will be explained and contest instructions will be given. Coaches should be prepared to check names, addresses, and ages of their contestants.
3. All contestants and coaches will report to the East Hall of the Exposition Center on Tuesday, November 17 at 7:30 a.m., where they will receive final instructions regarding the remainder of the contest.
4. No contestant shall wear any clothing, pins, or badges that will in any way reveal his/her identity or the state that he/she represents. The contest will be held inside so dress accordingly. No hats are to be worn during the contest.
5. All electronic communication devices of any kind are prohibited. Please advise your contestants to remove these devices prior to the start of the contest. If a contestant's phone should ring, or if they are discovered using such electronic devices during the contest, the contestant and their team may be disqualified.
6. Contestants will be divided into groups for the contest and will remain with their assigned group throughout the contest and the delivery of oral reasons. While the contest is in progress, there will be no conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone else except as directed by the Superintendent or his/her representative. Offending contestants may be disqualified.
7. The contest will be comprised of eleven (11) classes of livestock. Of these eleven classes, four will be beef, three will be swine, three will be sheep, and one may be a class of meat goat does or market wethers. In the Event that a high quality Goat Class can't be located, the Committee has the right to add a fourth sheep class. Sheep Breeds for class consideration shall also include hair type sheep. All classes will be comprised of four animals, and the animals will be designated with numbers
1-2-3-4. At least one breeding class from each species will have performance data and a scenario included. However, contest administrators and officials will strive to include performance information and scenarios for all breeding classes, if possible. See the Guidelines: National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest for a description of scenarios and performance definitions. Of the four species will have performance data and a scenario included. Of the four species being evaluated, a minimum of one class may be made up of intact males.
8. Reasons will be given on four classes (two beef, one swine, and one sheep). Questions will be asked on three classes. One swine (breeding or market); one sheep or meat goat (breeding or market); one beef (breeding or market) that will comprise the question classes. A beef breeding class with performance records will automatically be an oral reasons class. Contestants will be provided a blank notebook/pad on the morning of the contest. Contestants are not permitted to use notes while giving oral reasons.
9. Two minutes will be allowed to give oral reasons on each class.
10. Contestants will be allowed twelve (12) minutes to place each non-reasons class.
11. Contestants will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes on each reasons class, to make their observations, take notes, and fill-out their placing card.
12. Once time has been called and judging on a class has been completed; contestants must immediately turn in their cards to their Group Leader. Any contestant failing to turn in their card either by the time the Ring Clerk picks up the Group's cards from the Group Leader or the group has rotated to the next class shall receive a zero as a placing score for that class.
13. Breeding cattle and steers will NOT be handled. All judging of non-reasons cattle classes will be done from a distance of 10-15 feet. Close inspection may be allowed. This will be determined after selection of the classes.
14. Breeding sheep and goats will not be handled since they will be judged loose in a pen. When handling market lambs and meat goat wethers, contestants will stand in line and will be allowed 15 seconds to handle each lamb or goat individually. Lambs and goats will not be rehandled at any time.
15. All official 4-H coaches and assistants as listed on the state entry form (spouses if they want to) must be available and are required to assist during the morning of the contest to assist with the running of the contest. Job responsibilities will be assigned at the coaches' meeting on Monday evening prior to the contest.

SUPERINTENDENT

1. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to see that all rules and regulations of the contest are followed. He/she shall determine the answers to all questions which may arise in connection with the interpretation of the rules governing the contest.
2. The Superintendent shall have assistant superintendents and helpers to assist with contest management.
3. The Superintendent will not serve as an official judge nor listen to oral reasons.
4. The Superintendent shall take charge of all records and shall have all scores tabulated and totaled.
5. All decisions by the Superintendent, Chair and/or Contest Management Committee shall be deemed final and shall not be further challenged.

CONTEST HELP

Any handlers, clerks, assistants and attendants, etc. shall be under the direction of the Superintendent. They shall carry out all assignments in an orderly manner; and no contest help shall confer with a contestant, contest committee or contest official Judges unless directed by the Superintendent.

DETERMINATION OF RATINGS

1. Fifty (50) points shall constitute a perfect mark for placing classes and 50 points a perfect mark on oral reasons.
2. Highest total score overall wins.
 - a. If there is a tie then the highest total reasons score breaks the tie.
 - b. If still tied then the lower placings in reasons classes wins.
 - c. If still tied then the highest total questions score wins.
3. Highest reasons score wins.
 - a. If there is a tie then the lower placings classes wins.
 - b. If there is still a tie the highest total overall score wins
4. Highest score within the species wins.
 - a. If there is a tie then the highest total reasons score within the specie wins.
 - b. If still tied then the highest total reason score overall wins.
 - c. If still tied then the highest total score overall wins.
5. The records tabulated and submitted by the Superintendent to the Secretary-Manager of the North American International Livestock Exposition shall be final, once they have been publicly announced.
6. Team alternates are eligible for individual awards.

JUDGES

1. A committee of judges shall place all classes and listen to oral reasons. If the number of teams entered indicates that additional judges are necessary to expedite the process of listening to oral reasons, the Superintendent shall have the authority to appoint such judges.
2. The judges shall place the classes while the contestants are working in the area. The judges shall mark their placing's on placing cards, indicate the cuts to be made and file that card with the referee judge.
3. Contestants will **NOT** be offered their placing card as they appear before an official judge to give their oral reasons. When a contestant has finished giving oral reasons on a class, the judge will place the official reasons score on a master sheet that will be used for tabulation.

CONTESTANTS AND TEAMS **WILL** BE SUBJECT TO DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE CONTEST FOR INFRACTIONS OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS

ENTRY MATERIALS due by October 15th:

- 1) State Entry Form – with all the required signatures, youth and coaches information
- 2) College transcripts – for any youth currently enrolled in a postsecondary course related to visual livestock and/or carcass evaluation.
- 3) Signed National 4-H Livestock Contest Code of Ethics for coaches.
- 4) \$150.00 fee paid on-line on NAILE website
- 5) Copies of all forms and materials must be sent to Vice-Chair Bonnie Boyden at bboyden@umd.edu or mailed to 9501 Crain Highway, Box 1, Bel Alton, MD 20611

Failure to submit all entry materials by the deadline shall deem the state's entry incomplete and thus ineligible to compete in that year's National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest.

WEBSITE FOR CONTEST INFORMATION

<http://extension.umd.edu/charles-county/4-h-youth/national-4-h-livestock-judging>

If you have questions or desire additional information, please contact the Superintendent:

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