



AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
BLDG
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
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ONE SHIELDS AVENUE, DANR
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8575

December 10, 2008

TO: 4-H Youth Development Advisors & 4-H Program Representatives
FR: Mitch Ylarregui, State 4-H Livestock Judging Chairperson
RE: California State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest

The Livestock Judging Contest that serves as the California 4-H State Qualifier will be held at **California State University at Fresno**. Contest date is **Saturday, April 18, 2009**. There is still a livestock judging contest held at the UC Davis Ag Science Field Day, but it is not the California 4-H State Qualifier.

The first place team in the State 4-H Livestock Judging contest shall be eligible to represent the State of California in the official National 4-H Livestock Judging competition in Louisville, Kentucky. The second place team may participate in the American Royal, November, Kansas City, MO. The third place team may participate in the National Western Stock Show, January, Denver, CO.

A county may enter more than one livestock judging team. A judging team typically consists of 4 members and in calculating the team's scores the lowest individual score is dropped. A club or county may also enter a 3-person team. If you do not have enough members to make a team, 4-Hers may compete as "individuals". They will be eligible for individual awards, but cannot qualify to go to the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest.

A Registration Form and the Rules and Regulations for the contest are enclosed. Photo identification of team/individual members **must** be submitted with the registration form. The photo **must** be clear. *Registration must be postmarked no later than February 1, 2009 and mailed along with the entry fee to the:*

California State 4-H Office
UC Davis
DANR Bldg, One Shields Ave
Davis, CA 95616-8575.

Late or faxed registration for the California State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest **will not** be accepted.

Special Note: Participating members in the 2009 contest must be enrolled in 4-H by January 1, 2009. CONFIRMATION OF NATIONAL 4-H JUDGING PARTICIPATION MUST BE CONFIRMED TO STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CHAIRPERSON BY MAY 30TH FOLLOWING THE STATE FINALS.

If you need have further questions, you may call the State 4-H office or call me at 559.706.3988.

REGISTRATION FORM
CALIFORNIA STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

California State University at Fresno - April 18, 2009

Registration must be postmarked on or before February 1, 2009

Photo identification of team/individual members must be submitted with registration form.

Registration Fee: \$20 per team - \$5 Individual Members

Make check payable to U.C. Regents and mail along with registration form by February 1, 2009 to:

California State 4-H Office, University of California at Davis

DANR Building, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616-8575

CONFIRMATION OF NATIONAL 4-H JUDGING PARTICIPATION MUST BE CONFIRMED TO STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CHAIRPERSON BY MAY 30TH FOLLOWING THE STATE FINALS.

County _____ Name of 4-H Club/County Team _____
(specify: Livestock Judging Team or 4-H Club)

4-H Leader (Coach) _____

Address _____

Phone Number: (Day) _____ (Evening) _____ E-Mail: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I, _____, the **4-H Youth Development Advisor/Program Rep**,
(Signature)

Verify the 4-H member(s) and 4-H leader (coach) registered are in good standing, are correctly identified in the (clear) photo identification, were enrolled in 4-H prior to January 1, 2009, and are approved by the home County 4-H Staff to participate in the California 4-H State Final Livestock Judging Contest.

Each county may enter more than one team. Each team must be entered on a separate entry form and designated as team number 1, 2, 3, etc. Each contestant must have passed his or her 14th birthday and not have passed his or her 19th birthday on January 1, 2009.

Please register your team / individual(s) below - *please print in ink or type (no pencil).*

Team # _____ (A team may consist of a minimum of three and a maximum of four 4-H members)

Member #1 _____ D.O.B. _____ Address _____

Member #2 _____ D.O.B. _____ Address _____

Member #3 _____ D.O.B. _____ Address _____

Member #4 _____ D.O.B. _____ Address _____

Individual 4-H members may judge if not on a designated team:

Member #1 _____ D.O.B. _____ Address _____

Member #1 _____ D.O.B. _____ Address _____

California State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest Rules and Regulations are enclosed - please read carefully. A confirmation letter and additional contest information will be mailed to the 4-H leader (coach) by March 1, 2009. Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to seeing you in April 2009.

The California 4-H Youth Development Program gratefully acknowledges the following for their support:

The Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation, California Farm Credit Associations, California State University of Fresno, The California 4-H Foundation, the Madera Agricultural Youth Association, and the Madera County 4-H Program.

<p style="text-align: center;">California State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest Rules and Regulations</p>

I. GENERAL RULES

- A. Each county is invited to enter one or more 4-H livestock judging teams of three members. A team may also enter one alternate. When the alternate judges, the three members with the three high scores will make up the team total. The county team/s members shall be selected in a manner determined by the county 4-H Youth Staff.
- B. Registration form and photo identification must be submitted and verified by county 4-H Staff by July 1st.
- C. CONFIRMATION OF NATIONAL 4-H JUDGING PARTICIPATION MUST BE CONFIRMED TO STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CHAIRPERSON BY MAY 30TH FOLLOWING THE STATE FINALS.**
- D. Each 4-H livestock team must be accompanied by a 4-H team coach or county authorized 4-H adult leader. (4-H team coach/adult leaders must be 21 years or older.)
- E. 4-H girl member/s must be accompanied by a female 4-H leader from her county. 4-H boy member/s must be accompanied by a male 4-H leader from his county. 4-H leader-chaperones must be at least 25 years of age.
- F. Each contestant must have passed his or her 14th birthday and not have passed his or her 19th birthday on January 1st and be enrolled as a 4-H member by January 1st of the calendar year in which the State and National contest are held.
- G. Contestants in state 4-H competition must not have participated in official post secondary (university, college, junior college) competitive events of a similar nature and in the same subject matter area. (For example, a contestant who has competed in an official collegiate livestock judging contest is ineligible to compete at the state level).
- H. Contestants who have judged as an alternate at the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest are considered as being part of the official State team and are ineligible to compete a second time.
- I. An entry fee of \$20 will be charged for each team or \$5 for individuals, which must be forwarded with team entry. The money received from this fee is used in defraying the expenses of the contest.
- J. Information regarding rule sheets, meeting date, times and place will be forwarded to 4-H counties by State 4-H Livestock Projects and Program Area Coordinator after entries are received.
- K. Violation of the above rules will result in forfeiture of any awards or recognition which have been won in the State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest. Rule infractions will be handled on a case by – case basis.

II. RULES OF CONDUCT

- A. No 4-H member is to leave the grounds without the permission of their coach or leader-chaperone.
- B. Smoking or use of tobacco **will not be permitted** by 4-H members while attending or taking part in any official 4-H activity.
- C. Drinking or possession of alcoholic beverages or drugs shall not be tolerated. Violation of this rule will cause immediate suspension from contest and forfeiture of all awards.
- D. Proper conduct is expected from 4-H members, coaches and leader-chaperones at all times. 4-H team coaches and leader-chaperones shall be responsible for 4-H members conduct at all times.
- E. California 4-H Code of Conduct shall be adhered to.
- F. 4-H members who have been found to have violated any of the above rules will be subjected to immediate suspension from the contest and forfeit awards.

III. JUDGING CONTEST RULES - Site of Contest – California State University at Fresno

A. General Rules

1. Each 4-H member entering the contest must be in current good standing (as determined by State 4-H Youth Staff).
2. No 4-H member or 4-H coach will be allowed to practice judging or familiarize themselves with animals to be used in the statewide contest.
3. All coaches and visitors must remain away from contest area until contest is completed.
4. No notes may be used while giving oral reasons although notes may be taken while judging, provided only a blank notebook or paper is used.
5. Any contestant who confers with other individuals without authorization while the contest is in progress may be immediately barred from the contest by the contest chairperson.
6. Fifteen minutes will be allowed contestants on reason classes, to take notes and fill out placing cards.
7. Two minutes will be allowed to give oral reasons to the judges, use of notes will not be allowed unless special needs are identified and approved by contest chairperson.
8. Eleven classes of animals will be judged as follows: two classes of meat goats; and three classes each of beef cattle, sheep, and swine. Production information may be included for breeding classes.
9. Reasons will be taken on three (3) classes (1 from each species). Possibly 4 classes (meat goats)
10. The animals will be designated by numbers 1-2-3-4 numbered from left to right viewing the animals from the rear view or on their bodies.
11. In handling individual livestock, contestants may stand in line and may be allowed to handle each animal individually.

12. Contestants may only use clip board and/or a note book pad. No additional judging information will be permitted.
13. Any protests concerning the outcome of the judging contest must be submitted in writing within 24 hours after results are given out. After this time, the results will be considered final.

IV. STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CHAIRPERSON

- A. It shall be the duty of the State 4-H Livestock Judging Chairperson to see that all rules and regulations of the contest are carried out. He or she shall decide all questions which may arise in connection with the interpretation of the rules governing the contest.
- B. The State 4-H Livestock Judging Chairperson shall have assistant superintendents and/or helpers to assist him or her.
- C. The State 4-H Livestock Judging Chairperson will not take part in rating the contestants.
- D. The State 4-H Livestock Judging Chairperson shall have charge of all records and shall have all ratings tabulated and totaled.
- E. Clerks and assistants shall be under the direction of the State 4-H Livestock Judging Chairperson.

V. DETERMINATION OF RATINGS

- A. Fifty points shall constitute a perfect mark on placing and fifty points a perfect mark on reasons.
- B. Ties:
 1. If tied for a species award, contestant or team having highest reason score on the species shall be listed first.
 2. If tied for individual or team overall award, contestant or team having highest total reason score shall be listed first.
 3. If still tied from either of the above, contestant or team having highest score in placing shall be listed first.
 4. If contestants are still tied from a, b or c above, the youngest contestant shall be listed first.
 5. If tied for individual total reasons award, the youngest contestant shall be listed first.
- C. Records tabulated and submitted the State 4-H Livestock Coordinator to be awarded at the award ceremony held in conjunction with the California State University of Fresno, Future Farmers of America Livestock Judging Contest
- D. Team alternates are eligible for individual awards.

VI. AWARDS SYSTEM

- A. The State 4-H Incentive Program will award gold, silver, and bronze medallions respectively to the first, second, and third high point individuals/teams in the contest.
- B. Ribbons will be given to first, second, third, fourth and fifth place teams and individuals in each species.
- C. The first place team in the State 4-H Livestock Judging contest shall be eligible to represent the State of California in the official National 4-H Livestock Judging competition in Louisville, Kentucky. If the first place team does not desire to participate in the official National 4-H Judging contest, then the succeeding teams shall be eligible in order down to and including third place.
- D. The second and third place teams may attend and participate in the 4-H Livestock Judging Contests at:
 - 1. 2nd Place Team: American Royal, November, Kansas City, MO.
 - 2. 3rd Place Team: National Western Stock Show, January, Denver, CO.
- E. The 4-H State Champion Livestock Judging Team members cannot compete in any future state final 4-H livestock judging competition.
- F. No team placing lower than third place will be allowed to represent the State of California in out-of-state 4-H livestock judging contests.
- G. State winning teams should acquire sponsorship assistance locally. They may also be eligible for financial assistance from the State 4-H Office.

VII. JUDGES

- A. A committee of judges shall select and place all classes and hear and score all reasons. The judges shall decide which classes require reasons. If the number of teams entered indicates that additional judges are necessary to expedite and make more efficient the hearing and scoring of reasons, the contest chairperson shall appoint such judges.
- B. The judges shall place the classes and enter their placings on placing cards, indicate the cuts to be made and file that card with the contest chairperson.
- C. Contestants may be handed their placing card as they appear before each judging committee to give their reasons. When the contestant has finished, the judge will place the official reason grade upon the placing card and submit for tabulation/scoring.