Aksarben JUNIOR COLLEGE
LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

Sunday, September 30, 2018

Co-Superintendents
Bryan Reiling, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE
Mark Hassebrook, Bellwood, NE

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The 2018 Aksarben Junior College Livestock Judging Contest will be held Sunday, September 30, beginning promptly at 8:00 a.m. in the Thompson Arena on the Nebraska State Fairgrounds in Grand Island, NE. All contestants are requested to be in the Arena by 7:30 a.m. A meeting of the coaches will be held Saturday, September 29, at 8:00 p.m. at the Ramada (2503 South Locust St), Grand Island, at which time final entries will be made. An awards presentation will be held following the official's critique on Sunday afternoon.

TEAMS AND ENTRIES

A team shall consist of five members representing the agricultural college in which they are regularly enrolled. A college/university may enter one (1) sophomore team and up to 5 additional sophomore alternates, who may judge as individuals. A college/university may also enter one (1) freshman team and up to 5 additional freshman alternates, who may judge as individuals. Teams consist of five (5) individuals. Thus, a maximum of 10 sophomores and 10 freshmen from the same college/university may judge in this contest. Entries and fee payment can be made online or hard copy mailed to the Superintendent, to arrive no later than Friday, September 7. A fee of $200.00 per team and/or $40 per individual must accompany entry forms. Money received from entry fees will be used to help defray contest expenses.

ELIGIBILITY OF CONTESTANTS

1. All team members must be majoring or minoring in agriculture.

2. All team members must be enrolled as full time students carrying 12 quarters or semester hours.

3. Team members must not have completed more than 66 semester hours or its equivalent in quarter hours or 5 semesters.

4. Open to all junior, community or vocational technical colleges teaching agriculture.

5. Each livestock judging coach and his/her institution will be held responsible for seeing that all of their respective contestants qualify under contest eligibility rules.

6. The specific eligibility of a contestant will be determined by the Junior College Coaches' Association Constitution. Stated as follows: A student will have a 12-month continuous eligibility from the date of his first official contest as a team member.

7. A contestant must be deemed eligible by any and all National Junior College Coaches' Association rules.

SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent shall have complete charge of the contest. He/She shall see that all rules and regulations governing the contest are duly carried out and that the contest is conducted with fairness and justice to all concerned. The Superintendent shall also decide all questions which may arise in connection with the interpretation of the rules.

JUDGING SYSTEM

A committee of officials shall place all classes and score all oral reasons. A selection committee shall select all classes for the contest and decide which classes require oral reasons. If the number of teams entered indicates that additional officials are necessary to expedite and make more efficient the scoring of reasons, the Superintendent shall have the authority to appoint such officials.

All contestants will report to the Thompson Arena on the Nebraska State Fairgrounds in Grand Island at 7:30 a.m., Sunday, September 30, where they will receive full contest instructions. Each contestant will be assigned a number and will be given an opportunity to ask questions.

No contestant shall wear any uniform, college colors, or shall in any way signify to the judges the identity of the college which he/she represents.

METHOD OF CONDUCT

No member of any team nor their coach (unless engaged in a judging assignment) shall be allowed on the grounds to inspect livestock at the Aksarben Stock Show prior to the contest.

While the contest is in progress, there shall be no conferring between contestants or anyone else, except as directed by the Superintendent or his/her representative. Cell phones, pagers, and other electronic communication devices are prohibited. Any violation of this rule may result in expulsion and disqualification of the offender.

CLASSES - The contest will consist of twelve classes of livestock. Of these twelve classes, there will likely be 4-5 classes of beef cattle, 2-3 classes of swine, 2-3 classes of sheep and 1-2 classes of meat goats. However, the contest superintendent may change the number of species classes dependent upon availability of appropriate livestock. All classes will be comprised of four animals and the animals will be designated by numbers 1-2-3-4. For each species that has a minimum of 3 classes judged, there will be at least one market and one breeding class. Breeding classes may include individual performance or genetic records, and a situation statement for the class may be provided. This information, along with subjective appraisal, will be used by officials to determine the final official placing and may be included as a portion of the oral reason discussion.

TIME ALLOWED - Contestants will be allowed 12 minutes to place each class. There will be a two-minute time warning.

Breeding cattle will NOT be handled. Steers will NOT be handled. All judging of cattle will be conducted from a distance of approximately 15-25 feet with close inspections allowed.

Breeding sheep and breeding goats will NOT be handled since they will be judged loose in a pen. Market lambs and Market goats will be placed in sequential order (1, 2, 3, 4 from left to right, when viewed from behind) in stands. Market lambs and goats will NOT be handled, but they will be removed from the racks and walked so contestants may observe structural and muscle differences on the move.

REASONS – Freshmen contestants shall give oral reasons on **four to six (4-6)** classes, which will include 2-3 classes of cattle, 1-2 classes of sheep, 1-2 classes of goats, and/or 1-2 classes of swine. Sophomore contestants shall give oral reasons on **six to eight (6-8)** classes, which will include 2-4 classes of cattle, 1-2 classes of swine, 1-2 classes of sheep, and/or 1-2 classes of swine. Contestants will be informed which classes require reasons prior to start of the contest. Each division of the contest (4-H, Freshmen, Sophomores, and Senior College) will present reasons to their own set of officials.

MATERIALS - The Superintendent shall supply placing cards and any other necessary forms for conducting the contest. Contestants will be permitted to take notes on reasons classes, but will not be allowed to use those notes while giving reasons to officials.

All coaches, assistants, and non-judging alternates should be available during the morning of the contest to assist with running of the contest, if needed. Job responsibilities will be handed out at the coaches' meeting on Saturday, September 29.

Upon conclusion of the judging portion of the contest, coaches and/or their designees will need to line up vans to assist with transportation of all contestants to the reasons facility.

DETERMINATION OF RATINGS

Ratings shall be based upon a possible score of 50 points for placing each ring and 50 points for each set of reasons. Assuming 8 sets of reasons for sophomores, there would be a possible total score of 1,000 points per contestant. Assuming 6 sets of reasons for freshmen, there would be a possible total score of 900 points per contestant.

A. Teams and individuals shall be ranked in order of total score (placings and reasons) for the classes comprising each species or award category. The team or individual having the highest score shall be declared the winner in each category of the contest.

B. In the case of a tie in team or individual scores overall, ties will be broken in the following manner:
    a. Higher total reasons score
    b. Lower total placing score in reasons classes
    c. "Flip of the coin" (fourth tie-breaker)
    d. Awards will not be duplicated.

C. In the case of a tie in team or individual scores within species or category, ties will be broken in the following manner:
    a. Higher total reasons score within species/category
    b. Higher total reasons score overall
    c. Higher total score overall
    d. "Flip of the coin" (fourth tie-breaker)
    e. Awards will not be duplicated.

D. In the case of a tie in team or individual scores within species or category, ties will be broken in the following manner:
    a. Lower placing score in reasons classes
    b. Higher total overall score
    c. "Flip of the coin" (fourth tie-breaker)
    d. Awards will not be duplicated.