

2018 Nebraska State Fair Herdsmanship Rules:

*The purpose of this contest is to encourage cooperation, fellowship and teamwork among exhibitors in developing and maintaining a display of cattle and stalling areas. It also promotes pride and enthusiasm for the industry and rewards those exhibitors that achieve this purpose. Herdsmanship duties are the primary responsibility of the livestock exhibitor.

*Judging will be completed by members of area FFA Alumni Chapters, 4H Alumni and State Fair Board members.

Open Class exhibitors: First through third place will be awarded in the following livestock divisions (dairy cattle, meat goat, dairy goat, sheep, swine, llama and alpaca).

4H/FFA: Each livestock division (beef, dairy, meat goat, sheep and swine) will be judged separately. Each division will have two subdivisions: large group and small group. For 4H, there will be a division for counties with five or fewer exhibitors and one for counties with six or more exhibitors. Group size shall be determined by advanced entries. For FFA, small groups will be those chapters with entries below the average number of entries in the division and large groups will be those with entries above the average number of entries in the division. The number of animals checked in at the fair will determine large group or small group.

*Each organization (Open Class, 4H and FFA) shall maintain its own method for breaking a tie in the herdsmanship contest.

*The Herdsmanship contest will begin at the time the division of livestock (beef, dairy, meat goat, sheep and swine) is to be in place and ends when livestock exhibits are released. Judging for Herdsmanship may take place any time between 7:00 am and 8:00 pm.

*Basis of rating Herdsmanship: The Herdsmanship Committee will use the following scoring guide in judging exhibits for Herdsmanship:

***Animals: (15 points)** Clean at all times with proper grooming, feed, bedding and care apparent, properly penned and secured.

***Stalls: (25 points)** Clean and neat, clean bedding, full water bucket, feed and feed pans and buckets clean and in place, no manure in stall area, exhibitor signs clearly in place.

***Tack/Feed Area: (10 points)** Kept clean and neatly arranged, grooming and tie-out areas kept clean, personal items out of sight or neatly stored.

***Alleyways: (25 points)** Exhibitors designated alleys and commons areas kept clean, free of equipment, loose dirt and dust kept under control with proper sweeping and/or sprinkling, no manure in piles.

***Exhibitors: (25 points)** Proper courtesy and conduct shown by exhibitors at all times and in all places including with the public and other exhibitors. All exhibitors are expected to participate in Herdsmanship.