

NATIONAL 4-H LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON CONTEST

Monday, November 14, 2011

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RULES AND REGULATIONS

TEAM AND CONTESTANT ELIGIBILITY

1. Each state is invited to enter one (1) team of up to four (4) contestants.
2. Teams consist of three or four members. In teams in which there are four members, all will compete, but the member receiving the lowest overall score will be automatically declared the alternate. The scores of the alternate will not be included in any of the team totals, but will be considered in making all individual awards. Teams consisting of three members will have no alternate and all members' scores will count in determining individual and team awards.
3. The team may be selected by any procedure that the state deems to be appropriate. Team members must be enrolled in 4-H in the state they represent during the current year. Their eligibility must be certified by the state 4-H leader. Registration forms will be sent to state 4-H leaders or state livestock extension specialists by August 1. **Completed entry forms should be returned by October 1.** A general list of resource materials that may help (not all encompassing) for this contest will be included with the registration packets.
4. Contestants must be at least 14 years of age on January 1 of the current calendar year and not have had their 19th birthday before January 1 of the current calendar year. 4-H members are ineligible if they have completed a collegiate level animal science course or are enrolled in a collegiate level animal science course.
5. Since this is a relatively new event, judging team participants will be allowed to compete in both livestock judging and the livestock skillathon. After competing in the National 4-H skillathon contest, they are ineligible to compete in the National 4-H skillathon contest again. Contestants must not have competed previously in any official post secondary (collegial) livestock quiz bowl or livestock quadrathlon contests.
6. An entry fee of \$75 per team will be due with the team entry. These funds are used to help defray the expenses of the contest.
7. A coaches' meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 13th in the Holiday Inn Meeting Room at Fern Valley Road. Contest instructions will be given at this time. Coaches should be prepared to check names, addresses, and ages of contestants.

CONTEST METHOD OF CONDUCT

1. All contestants and coaches will report to the Kentucky Exposition Center on Monday, November 14 at 1:00 p.m. At this time, contestants will receive final instructions regarding the contest and will be sorted into groups.
2. The contest will be divided into two rounds. In the first round of the contest, one group will participate in the team oriented classes while the other group will complete the individual competitor classes of the contest. In the second round, the two large groups will switch areas of competition.
3. During the individual competition round of the contest, contestants will be further divided into groups and will remain with that assigned group throughout that contest 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. Contestants will be allowed 15 minutes to complete each individual competition class.
4. Team members will complete one official answer sheet for each team effort class representing the combined effort of all team members. Teams will be allowed 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 be allowed to confer only with team members during the time period allowed for each class.
5. No contestant shall wear any clothing, pins, or badges that will in any way reveal his identity or the state, which he represents. The contest will be held inside, so dress accordingly. No hats are to be worn.
6. Contestants may use a blank steno pad or a clipboard and blank paper. Contestants may also use a small pocket calculator (programmable calculators will not be permitted). The contestants may bring no books, notes, pamphlets, or other reference material into the contest area. Contest officials reserve the right to check all contestant's notepads or clipboards to make sure they are blank just prior to the contest. Violators are subject to contest dismissal.
7. Contestants are not to pick up or touch any item that is being identified or evaluated in the individual competition classes, unless otherwise directed by contest officials.
8. Coaches are invited to review contest materials in the contest area at the conclusion of the contest at approximately 5:00 p.m.
9. Complete and return the Team Entry Form, 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest along with the entry fee to the contest Superintendent by **October 1**.
10. The contest awards will be presented in conjunction during the awards breakfast of the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest. The awards breakfast will be held at 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 16 at the North American International Livestock Exposition in the South Wing. It is advised to arrive a half-hour to one-hour early to get team photos taken and get a table.

CONTEST CLASSES

The following is a list of common Skillathon classes. Please note that actual classes may deviate from this list in an effort to keep current with a rapidly changing livestock industry. The contest is not limited to the following classes therefore points totals may vary as well.

Classes competed as an individual

1. **Livestock Equipment Identification:** (60 possible points) Identify the proper name and use for pieces of equipment used in livestock production. (A list of equipment and potential uses will be provided.)
2. **Livestock Breed Identification:** (50 possible points) Identify from photographs or pictures livestock (beef cattle, swine, sheep and goat) breeds. Contestants must also match the breed with the most appropriate description supplied for each breed.
3. **Retail meat cut identification:** (75 possible points) Identify from a provided list the uniformly accepted name of beef, pork, and lamb retail cuts on display including the species, wholesale cut from which each retail cut originates and the retail cut.
4. **Hay and Wool Judging Class:** Rank a class of four hay and wool samples with analysis information (100 possible points). Answer questions about the classes (50 possible points).
5. **Quality Assurance Exercise:** (50 possible points) Demonstrate how to read a medicine label, calculate withdrawal times, complete a treatment record, and make responsible management decisions regarding quality assurance.
6. **Quiz:** (60 possible points) Complete a 30 question multiple choice quiz concerning the total livestock industry.

Total possible individual points = 400-600

Classes completed as a team

1. **Quality Assurance Exercise:** (100 possible points) Demonstrate how to read an animal health product label, calculate dosage rates and withdrawal times, complete a treatment record, be familiar with administration routes, animal identification and restraint methods, and make responsible management decisions regarding quality assurance. (This may involve live animals depending on availability.)
2. **Meat & Carcass Evaluation:** (125 possible points) Rank one (1) class of four similar retail cuts (50 possible points). Evaluate photos of a carcass and also price carcasses using a grid (75 possible points).
3. **Animal Breeding Scenario and Exercise:** (100 possible points) Team members will evaluate a breeding/marketing animal scenario and make animal selection/marketing decisions based upon performance/visual data to rank breeding animals or market them for use within the situation.
4. **Evaluation of Performance & Marketing Information:** (100 possible points) Evaluate performance information on a group of livestock and then use the information given to make the best marketing decisions.
5. **Livestock Feeding:** (100 possible points) Identify the proper name for livestock feeds and identify each corresponding nutrient group. Feed samples and lists of feed names and nutrient groups will be provided. Utilizing feed ingredients given,

formulate a ration for a group of livestock.

Possible point total for team classes = 400-600

Total team scores will be determined by adding the highest three team member individual competition class totals with the total accumulated from the team competition classes. (Possible team total = 1,600-2,000 points)

AWARDS

Individual and team awards will be given in all divisions.

- Top 10 **teams** overall
- Top 4 **teams** in Quality Assurance
- Top 4 **teams** in Identification
- Top 4 **teams** in Evaluation
- Top 10 **individuals** overall
- Top 5 **individuals** in Quality Assurance
- Top 5 **individuals** in Identification
- Top 5 **individuals** in Evaluation