



ND FFA Association

LIVESTOCK EVALUATION

CDE Handbook

Purpose

This activity provides participants with an opportunity to test their skills in the judging and selection of livestock. This contest has been designated as our state contest and the team to represent North Dakota in the National FFA Career Development Event will be determined here.

Contest Objectives

1. To measure the student's knowledge in the following categories:
 - (a) to make accurate observations of livestock
 - (b) to determine the desirable traits in animals
 - (c) to make logical decisions based on these observations
 - (d) to discuss and defend their decisions for their placing
 - (e) to install an appreciation for desirable human selection, management and marketing techniques
 - (f) to gain a basic understanding of the livestock industry
2. To develop the ability to select, and market livestock that will satisfy consumer demands, provide increased economic returns to producers, as well as meet the needs of the industry.
3. To understand and interpret the value of performance data based on industry standards.
4. To become proficient in communicating in the terminology of the industry and the consumer.
5. To provide an opportunity for contestants to become familiar with professionals in the industry.

Awards

1. All gold individuals will receive state gold livestock judging medals, silver and bronze individuals will receive ribbons. The high individual will receive a State FFA "Baby Bison" Trophy, the Mel Kirkeide award plaque. When the high individual is on the championship team, they will be awarded a travel stipend.
2. Gold teams will receive ebony state plaques or will add their names to their existing plaques. Bronze and silver teams will receive team rosettes. The high team will receive

possession of the Traveling Trophy. The high team members each will receive a travel stipend from the ND FFA Foundation to attend the National FFA Convention and represent North Dakota in the National Career Development Event. Team TIES will be broken by the team Reasons score, Team placing's, followed by the team Cull/Keep score (top three individuals). *Individual ties will not be broken.*

General Rules

1. Each FFA Chapter may enter up to five participants. The team score will be determined by adding the three highest individual scores from the chapter.
2. Participants shall meet the general eligibility requirements for FFA members as set up in the North Dakota FFA General Rules and Career Development Guide.
3. Members who have judged in the National FFA Livestock Evaluation Event may continue to compete for individual awards only and must be so designated upon entry. They will be entered as an individual and their score will not be a part of the team score from their chapter.
4. Time – 10 minutes will be allowed for placing non-reason classes with flexibility to increase the time when a market lamb class is used to allow for handling of the lambs and 15 minutes for reasons classes. Reasons should be approximately two minutes in length. One performance appraisal class based on written data will be included in the contest. Twelve minutes will be allowed to complete this section. 20 minutes will be provided to complete the written exam.

Event Outline

1. Selection of classes to be judged is left to the division superintendent. The event will contain six classes of livestock comprised of Beef, Sheep, Swine, or Meat Goats. Classes will be Breeding or Market, subject to availability of livestock. Performance data could be used. The six classes of livestock will consist of four animals each and will be placed using the Livestock Form #: 476-3. Classes may be shown loose or by holders.
2. Three sets of oral reasons, one for each species of livestock (not meat goats), will be required for all contestants. Reasons will be presented, after all classes have been placed. Additional placing cards may be used by contestants to be handed to the official reason taker at the time of presenting reasons or the official reason taker may record scores on a spreadsheet. Only the contestant's identification number, squad number, and placing may be written on these documents. Notes are allowed in the reasons taking rooms, but with a score deduction expected.

3. A general knowledge exam will be given to evaluate students individually in livestock knowledge.

- The exam will consist of 25 questions weighted at 2 points a question.
- A total of 30 minutes will be allowed for the test.
- The reference is the 8th or 9th Edition of: Modern Livestock and Poultry Production by Frank Flanders, James R. Gillespie. Chapters used: 13-Breeds of Beef Cattle, 14- Selection and Judging of Beef Cattle, 20- Breeds of Swine, 21-Selection and Judging of Swine, 26-Breeds and Selection of Sheep, 28-Breeds, Selection, Feeding, and Management of Goats.

4. Keep/Cull classes: There will be one class that may be comprised of beef, swine, or sheep. This Class will be made up of eight breeding animals. Participants will be required to select the four best animals from the eight, using visual appraisal and performance data. Performance data will be provided. Production/performance data (including EPD's) may be used in the keep/cull classes of beef, swine, or sheep.

Production/performance data, when used, shall be based on current industry standards. (50 points/class, 150 points total) Plus any other data that may be relevant to selection.

Scoring

Activity	Individual Points	Team Points
Placing Classes (6-50 points each)	300	900
Oral Reasons (3-50 points each)	150	450
General Knowledge Exam	50	150
Keep/Cull Class	50	150
Total Points	550	1650