



Michigan 4-H/FFA Virtual Livestock Judging Contest



Monday, June 21, 2021

Held in partnership with the Livestockjudging.com

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In the livestock judging contest, participants can enhance their livestock evaluation and selection skills, as well as improve their communication and decision making skills. This contest will include both individual and team competition.

KEY CONTEST REMINDERS:

- Ten classes including beef cattle, goats, sheep and swine will be counted towards the total score.
- MLE participants may enter a Questions Only division. No reasons will be required in this division.
- **MI Shows Points:** Participants in the MI Shows Points for 2021 may use points scored in the 4-H/FFA Judging Contest towards the educational contest. This judging contest will count as 2 educational contests. Please sign up for the division below (4-H, FFA or MLE) that is appropriate, there is no need to sign up for a separate “MI Shows” division.

ENTRY DEADLINE IS JUNE 16, 2021.

Entries will only be received online in 2021 at <https://form.jotform.com/211304000903030>
Payment should be made by credit/debit card at: https://commerce.cashnet.com/msu_3645

4-H CLOVERBUD DIVISION:

This 4-H Division is open to youth age 7 as of **January 1** of the current year. Youth will judge 10 classes and answer four sets of questions. This is considered a non-competitive individual division and all contestants will be recognized.

4-H JUNIOR DIVISION:

4-H members ages **8 to 13** as of **January 1** of the current year compete in reasons or questions in the 4-H Junior Division.

4-H SENIOR DIVISION:

4-H members ages **14 to 19** as of **January 1** of the current year compete in reasons in the 4-H Senior Division.

FFA Junior High DIVISION:

FFA members who recently completed 7th or 8th grade compete in reasons or questions in the FFA Junior High Division.

FFA High School DIVISION:

FFA member who recently completed 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade compete in reasons in the FFA High School Division.

MLE DIVISION:

Youth that are 7-21 years of age on **January 1** of the current year and are exhibiting at MLE may participate in the MLE Division, but may not be a member of a 4-H or FFA team. Youth not enrolled in 4-H or FFA may also compete in this division. This division is for individuals only and there will be no teams. Individuals may compete in the reasons or questions division. Youth who compete in the 4-H or FFA division and are also MLE participants, your scores will be provided to the MLE staff.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY:

1. Any 4-H member who has completed a post-secondary course related to livestock and/or carcass evaluation is ineligible to compete in the 4-H Senior Division. In addition, any 4-H member that has participated in any post-secondary (university, college, junior college, or technical school) competitive event of a similar nature and in the same subject matter is ineligible to compete in the 4-H Senior Division. However, they are eligible to compete in the Senior MLE Division.

- Any FFA member who has previously competed at the National FFA Livestock Evaluation Career Development Event (CDE) may compete in this contest as an individual, but may not be a member of a FFA team.
- Any 4-H member who has previously competed in the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) may compete in this contest as an individual, but may not be a member of a 4-H team.
- All members of a 4-H senior and junior team must be registered 4-H members enrolled in the same county.
- All members of a FFA team must be from the same FFA chapter.
- The top high school FFA team will have the opportunity to represent Michigan FFA at the National FFA Livestock Evaluation CDE in Louisville, KY.
- MLE Exhibitors, may choose to compete in the Senior MLE Division. Contestants in the division can choose to give reasons or answer questions.

Michigan 4-H Livestock Judging Program Changes:

As of May 2021 there will be no 4-H Livestock Judging Teams approved to travel to any competition outside the State of Michigan.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Each team can be made up of three or four members. When four are entered, the three team members with the highest scores will make up the team total.
- Contestants in the 4-H senior division, senior MLE division, and FFA high school division will give oral reasons. Senior MLE division contestants can also choose to enter the questions only division.
- All Contestants will judge 10 classes and answer 3 sets of questions.
- Any person, even though not competing on a team, is eligible to compete as an individual.
- The **entry fee will be \$10.00 per contestant** and must be paid when the entry is made. No late entries will be permitted. The fee allows contestants to compete in both the 4-H and FFA division if eligible.
- Preferred dress is business casual for oral reasons.
- By participating in the contest, contestants are authorizing Michigan State University Extension/4-H to record their image and/or voice for use by Michigan State University Extension or its assignees in research, education, and promotional programs. By participating in the contest, contestants understand and agree that these audio, video, film, and/or print images may be edited, duplicated, distributed, reproduced, broadcasted, and/or reformatted in any form and manner without payment of fees in perpetuity.

PROCEDURES:

- Each contestant must sign up with a unique email address. On the day of the contest, contestants will be emailed a link from livestockjudging.com. Contestants will have 12 hours to complete the judging and upload reasons (if applicable).
- If contestants are competing in both the 4-H and FFA divisions, they will only need to submit 1 entry.
- Ten classes** of livestock each will make up the contest. Four species will be represented: beef cattle, goats, sheep and swine. Both market and breeding animals may be judged.
- The contest will include oral reasons and/or questions on one class each of beef, sheep/goat and swine.
- Two minutes per set of reasons will be allowed to give oral reasons to the official judge. Oral reasons will be given virtually and uploaded to Livestockjudging.com via YouTube. Contestants are not permitted to use notes while giving oral reasons or answering questions.
- Pledge of Honesty: All contestants agree to a Pledge of Honesty prior to the competition. This pledge will affirm that the contestant will not use any type of aid, resource, or assistance in the answering of questions. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.
- Use of Electronic Devices: 4-H members will be allowed the use of computers, tablets, and cell phone for the sole purpose of conducting the contest. Use of smartwatches or other devices used to communicate with others is prohibited. Use of any electronic device or notes to look up information/resources during the contest is also prohibited.
- Violation of any of the rules will result in the disqualification of the contestant(s).
- The official placings will be presented via Zoom by the contest officials on Monday June 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

RANKINGS:

1. For 4-H Divisions, scores will be based on a possible 50 points for each placing class, 50 points for each oral reason class, and 50 points for each set of questions. With ten classes to be placed and three sets of reasons and questions there would be a possible score of 800 points per contestant and 2400 points per team.
2. For FFA Divisions scores will be based on a possible 50 points for each placing class, and 50 points for each set of questions. With ten classes to be placed and three sets of questions there would be a possible score of 650 points per contestant and 1950 points per team.
3. In case of ties, the highest award shall go to the individuals or teams as follows:
 - a. If tied for individual or team award, contestant or team having the highest oral reasons or questions score shall be listed first.
 - b. If contestants or teams are still tied from (a) above, the contestant or team with the most perfect scores per class shall be listed first.

AWARDS:

Additional awards may be added based on sponsorships; however, the contest will guarantee the following awards for the six different contest divisions:

1. 4-H Divisions:

- a. Cloverbuds: T-shirts will be presented to all contestants.
- b. Junior:
 - i. T-shirts will be presented to the top two high scoring individuals overall.
 - ii. The high scoring team will receive T-shirts.
- c. Senior:
 - i. Top ten overall individual will receive T-shirts.
 - ii. The high scoring team will receive T-shirts.

2. FFA Divisions:

- a. Junior High:
 - i. Award will be presented to the high scoring individual overall.
 - ii. The high scoring team will receive awards.
- b. High School:
 - i. Award will be presented to the high scoring individual overall.
 - ii. The high scoring team will receive awards.

3. Senior MLE Division:

- a. Recognition will be provided to the high scoring individual overall.

4. Other Recognition:

a. Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund Awards

- i. **Premier Stockman Award**: All point totals will be provided to the Michigan Livestock Expo to be used towards determining the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund Premier Stockman Awards. Participants must compete in showmanship at MLE and compete in the judging contest to be eligible for the awards.

LIVESTOCK JUDGING RESOURCES:

A variety of livestock judging resources exist to help develop animal evaluation skills. Below is a partial listing of available resources in alphabetical order:

Adam J. Conover: Youth Livestock Judging Manual in print copy:
Request copies from Nick Babcock (babco116@msu.edu)

eduGamer: Variety of livestock judging games: <http://www.edugamer.org/app/playGame.aspx?userGameId=4598>

Hummel Livestock: Goat Classes: Breeding does, wethers, and wether dams:
<http://www.hummellivestock.com/breeding-does#>

iCev: Instructional videos and classes for purchase:
<https://www.icevonline.com/>

Judging101.com: Sample classes for purchase:

<http://www.judging101.com/>

Judging Connection: <http://www.thejudgingconnection.com/>

Information on note set up, how to write reasons, and livestock terminology:

http://www.thejudgingconnection.com/pdfs/Livestock_Judging_Manual.pdf

Swine EPDs and practice scenarios: http://www.thejudgingconnection.com/pdfs/Swine_EPD_Terminology.pdf

Livestockjudging.com: Sample classes for free or purchase:

<http://www.livestockjudging.com/classes.aspx>

Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service 4-H Youth development: Oral reason outline to set up reasons:

http://4h.okstate.edu/literature-links/lit-online/animal-science-companion-animals/livestock-judging-1/N120_web.pdf

Sure Champ: Sample classes for free:

<http://surechamp.com/category/judging/>

Vista Ridge FFA: CDE livestock judging practice, practice quizzes, classes and body conditioning:

<https://sites.google.com/a/k12.leanderisd.org/vrhsffa/career-development-events-cde/livestock-judging-cde>