



**2023 AKSARBEN STOCK SHOW
LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST RULES
YOUTH 4-H/ FFA DIVISION**



Sunday, September 24, 2023

Superintendent – Malina Lindstrom; 308-991-9931; malina.lindstrom18@gmail.com

Aksarben Stock Show Contacts:

Jacque Johnson; 308-385-3932; jjohnson@statefair.org

Vaughn Sievers; 308-385-3964; vsievers@statefair.org

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Schedule of Events:

A coaches meeting will be held Saturday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m. at Barr Middle School (602 West Stolley Park Road, Grand Island, NE).

The 2023 Aksarben Stock Show Senior College Livestock Judging Contest will be held Sunday, September 24, beginning promptly at 8:00 a.m. in the Thompson Arena, Fonner Park, home of the Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island, NE. Check-in will be from 7:00 am to 7:45 a.m., but all contestants are encouraged to be there by 7:30 a.m.

Reasons will take place at Barr Middle School. Officials' critiques and the awards presentation will be held in the Quilt Room of the Pinnacle Bank Expo Center, Fonner Park, immediately following the conclusion of reasons.

TEAM AND ENTRIES

Each state is invited to enter up to three (3) 4-H and three (3) FFA livestock judging teams in the youth division of the AKSARBEN livestock judging contest. Teams may consist of three or four members each. The three members with the highest overall scores will make up the team total. However, the contestant with the low score is eligible for individual awards.

If more than three 4-H or more than three FFA teams enter from the same state, preference will be given to the teams that placed higher, as a team, in their respective state contest.

The contest superintendent will contact the state 4-H extension leader/state FFA organization to determine which teams will be eligible to compete in the Aksarben Livestock Judging Contest.

An entry fee of \$160.00 will be charged for each team (3 or 4 youth) entered. Up to 2 additional alternates per team may be entered to judge (\$40/alternate) as individuals. Entries and fee payment can be made online www.aksarbenstockshow.com by **Friday, September 8, 2023**. A fee of \$160.00 per team and \$40 per individual (maximum of two additional individuals per team) must accompany entry forms. Money received from entry fees is used to defray contest expenses.

Each state that has youth entered in the Aksarben 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest is responsible for medical/accident insurance for those youth while traveling to and from Aksarben as well as during the Aksarben 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest and other events associated with the Aksarben Stock Show.

ELIGIBILITY OF CONTESTANTS

1. Contestants must be bona fide 4-H/FFA member certified by the Extension Service/State FFA Office of their respective states.
2. To be eligible to participate as a contestant in the Aksarben 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest at the Aksarben Stock Show, an individual:
 - A) Shall NOT have participated in **any** post-secondary (university, college, junior college, or technical school) competitive event of a similar nature and in the same subject matter area. A competitive event is defined here as an event open to more than one educational institution (or its students) in which scores are kept and awards are offered to any or all participants.
3. Teams and contestants who have earned the right to represent their state in various national competitions in 2022 or 2023 including, but not limited to, the American Royal 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest (October 2022), the National Western 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest (January 2023), National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest during the N.A.I.L.E. (November 2022) or the National FFA Convention (October 2022) are eligible and encouraged to participate in this contest at the discretion of their individual states.
4. College freshmen who have qualified to compete in the 4-H/FFA divisions of the American Royal, National Western, or National 4-H (the NAILE at Louisville) and National FFA Convention Livestock Judging Contests may also compete as an individual in the 4-H/FFA division of the Aksarben Livestock Judging Contest provided they meet previously stated eligibility requirements outlined above. (item 2A)
5. State 4-H/FFA Leaders are responsible for determining eligibility of participants in the Aksarben 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest from their respective states.
6. Contestants will be subject to disqualification from the contest for rules and regulations infractions.

SUPERINTENDENT

It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to see that all rules and regulations of the contest are carried out. He/She shall decide all questions which may arise in connection with the interpretation of the rules governing the contest. The Superintendent may assign assistant superintendents and helpers to assist him. The Superintendent will oversee all final decisions, results and rankings following tabulation.

JUDGING SYSTEM

1. A committee of judges shall place all classes and listen to and score all reasons. If the number of teams entered indicates that additional judges are necessary to expedite and make more efficient the hearing and scoring of reasons, the Superintendent shall have the authority to appoint such judges.
2. The judges shall place the classes while the contestants are working in the area. The judges shall enter their placings on the placing card, indicate the cuts to be made and file that card with the Superintendent.

METHOD OF CONDUCT

1. Contestants and coaches are permitted to visit the Aksarben Stock Show. However, they are required to stay out of the aisles where the beef cattle, swine, sheep and goats are located. Contestants and coaches are allowed in the stands to watch the shows and/or visit the trade show. Contestants who plan to exhibit at Aksarben must notify the Superintendent for approval and permission, by September 8th.
2. At the coaches meeting, coaches should be prepared to check names, addresses, and ages of all contestants. Substitutions and roster changes may be conducted at this time, but all alternates must be similarly certified by the individual state 4-H/FFA leaders.
3. No contestant shall wear any clothing (including belt buckles), pins, or badges that reveal their identity or the state they represent. No hats are to be worn during the contest.
4. Contestants will be divided into groups for the contest and will remain with their assigned group throughout the contest. While the contest is in progress, the use of all electronic communication devices (cell phones, smart watches, pagers, PDA's, etc.) is prohibited. There shall be no conferring between contestants, except as directed by the Superintendent or their representatives. Any violation of this rule may result in expulsion and disqualification of the contestant.
5. The contest will consist of twelve (12) classes of livestock. Of these (12) classes, (beef, swine, sheep, meat goats). All classes will be comprised of four animals, and the animals will be designated by numbers 1-2-3-4. Classes will be market and breeding. Performance classes may include individual performance or genetic records, and a situation (scenario) statement. Breeding classes may be male or female.
6. Reasons are taken on four classes. Contestants must have a CLEAN notebook for taking notes the morning of the contest. This is the contestants' responsibility; notebooks and writing utensils are NOT provided. Contestants' notebooks are subject to inspection at any time, and supplemental materials brought into the contest including pre-written notes/terms will subject the contestant to potential disqualification from the contest.
7. The contest will consist of two rounds with six classes each. All classes will be 12 minutes with a two-minute warning.
8. Upon conclusion of judging each class, contestants will be asked to turn cards in to their group leader. Cards are to be turned in "face down", and cards will NOT be returned once they have been turned in. Cards will be considered LATE and NOT scored once "time in" has been called on the subsequent class. It is the responsibility of contestants to make sure their card has been turned in on time! Blank or double-marked cards will receive a zero. A photocopy of such cards will be made available to coaches after the contest.
9. Questions. 4-H/FFA contestants will answer three sets (10 questions/set) of questions. Questions will be asked of all contestants simultaneously upon conclusion of all judging. Contestants will be given 5 minutes to review their notes before each set of questions. The question reader will read each question twice. Once all questions have been asked, questions will each be reread a third time. Each question is worth 5 points.
10. Two minutes will be allowed to give oral reasons to judges.
11. Breeding cattle will NOT be handled. Handling of market cattle will be dictated upon the start of the contest. However, contestants will have an opportunity, as announced, for close inspection.

12. Breeding sheep and breeding goats will NOT be handled. Market lambs and market goats will be placed in stands, (1, 2, 3, 4 from left to right, when viewed from behind). Handling of market lambs and goats will be dictated upon the start of the contest. However, close inspection will be allowed, and they will be removed from the racks and walked.
13. All coaches and assistants should be available during the morning of the contest to assist with the contest. Job responsibilities will be discussed at the coaches' meeting on Saturday, September 23.

CLERKS AND ASSISTANTS

The clerks, assistants and attendants shall be under the direction of the Superintendent and shall carry out all assignments in an orderly manner; and none of them shall confer with a contestant unless directed by the Superintendent.

DETERMINATION OF RANKINGS

1. Tie Breakers: For individual or team species awards.
 - a. 1st tie-breaker, for individual or team species awards – reasons. The individual or team with the higher reasons score on that particular species will be listed first.
 - b. 2nd tie-breaker, for individual or team species awards – questions. The individual or team with the higher questions score on that particular species will be listed first.
 - c. 3rd tie-breaker, for individual or team species awards – overall total points. The individual or team with the higher overall total points will be listed first.
2. Tie Breakers: Reasons.
 - a. 1st tie-breaker, for individual or team reasons – lower placing score. The individual or team with the lower placing score on reasons classes will be listed first.
 - b. 2nd tie-breaker, for individual or team reasons – questions. The individual or team with the higher total questions score will be listed first.
 - c. 3rd tie-breaker, for individual or team reasons – overall total score. The individual or team with the higher overall total points will be listed first.
3. Tie Breakers: Overall.
 - a. 1st tie-breaker, for individual or team overall awards – reasons. The individual or team with the higher total reasons score will be listed first.
 - b. 2nd tie-breaker, for individual or team overall awards – questions. The individual or team with the higher total questions score will be listed first.
4. Once results are tabulated and submitted by the Superintendent to the Aksarben Stock Show management results shall be final.
5. Team alternates are eligible for individual awards.