Manatee County Fair Team Fitting Competition Rules

1. Each team will consist of three (3) individuals. One team member must be from each age division, Junior (8-10), Intermediate (11-13) and Senior (14-18). Team members must be a registered 2027 Manatee County Fair Beef Breeding OR steer exhibitor.
2. Teams must sign up prior to or during the contest registration period.
3. Each team will be responsible for bringing in a heifer that belongs to one of the team members. Heifers are not to be groomed but, should be washed and dried. Animals will be checked before entering the competition area.
4. Each team must provide their own fitting equipment. Once the contest begins, no team member may leave the area and no additional equipment may be brought into the fitting area.
5. Once the fitting area is designated for each team by the contest officials, the team may set up their grooming chute and supplies in their designated area. These items should be in place at least 5 minutes prior to the announced starting time of the contest.
6. Each team will be allowed 30 minutes to fit their animal.
7. Each team member will be expected to participate in the fitting process.
8. All fitting and grooming techniques must be within the accepted practices for the Manatee County Fair Beef Breeding Rules.
9. Judges will question participants once the 30 minutes of fitting is completed.
10. Points will be awarded as follows:
    Ability to fit - 25 points
    Organization of supplies & equipment - 5 points
    Participation of each team member - 10 points
    Overall effect - 5 points
    Knowledge & Response to Questions - 5 points
11. Judging will be by a two-member panel of judges based on 50 points maximum from each judge. Each judge shall total their score and rank the contestants in numerical order on the basis of their score. (Highest score first, lowest score last.)
12. The rankings (not the score) of the three judges shall be added for each team, and the final placings determined by the lowest composite rankings. Actual scores will be used only to break ties. In the event the participants are still tied, they shall be named co-winners and two awards will be given for that placing and none given for the following placing.