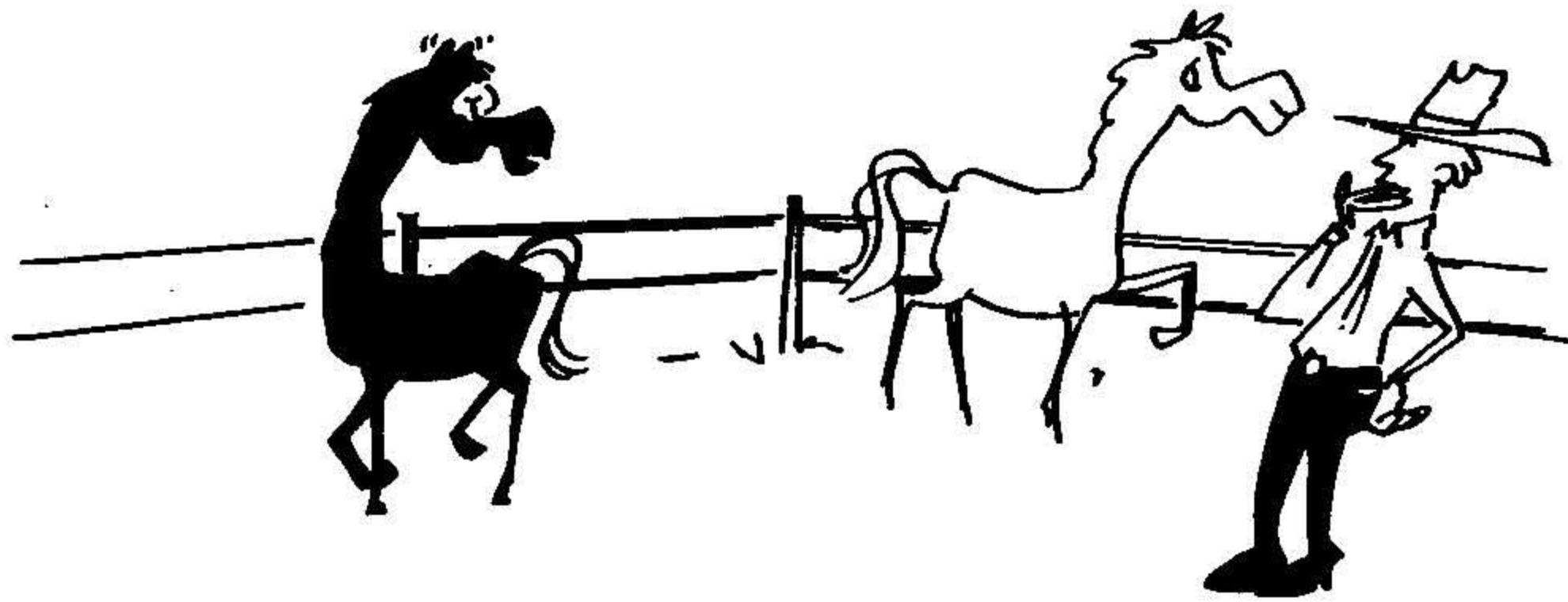


JUDGING

MADE

EASY



TIPS ON:

Reasons Presentation

and

Judging Procedures

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I. THE JUDGING CONTEST

A) Purpose of Judging Contests

Judging contests were designed to allow individuals and teams to compete in evaluating classes of animals, clothing and other products. However, the underlying purpose of these contests is to aid in the development of evaluation and decision making skills. Through judging an individual will learn to analyze, weigh and balance information in order to arrive at a definite conclusion. In addition, judging requires evaluation skills that can be used in the selection of animals that will enhance a breeding program or materials that will produce a higher quality product.

B) Contest Procedures

REGISTRATION:

Before the actual contest begins, an individual must register. At this time all materials needed for the contest (e.g. cards and information about classes and reasons) will be distributed and registration cards will be collected.

CARDS:

As stated above, judging cards are distributed during registration. In Fresno County, these cards will be in one of two forms; a packet of cards or a single sheet. The packet will contain a registration card and a placing card for each class. The registration card is turned in before the contest and the placing cards are turned in after each class. The single sheet contains the information needed for registration and a placing column for each class. This sheet is turned in after completing all the classes.

When marking the card(s), it is important to use the correct column or card for each class. Double check all cards to make sure they are marked correctly. (Contestants can often drop several

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
PLACING CARD FOR 4-H JUDGING

1-2-3-4	ABCD
1-2-4-3	ABDC
1-3-2-4	ACBD
1-3-4-2	ACDB
1-4-2-3	ADBC
1-4-3-2	ADCB
2-1-3-4	BACD
2-1-4-3	BADC
2-3-1-4	BCAD
2-3-4-1	BCDA
2-4-1-3	BDAC
2-4-3-1	BDCA
3-1-2-4	CABD
3-1-4-2	CADB
3-2-1-4	CBAD
3-2-4-1	CBDA
3-4-1-2	CDAB
3-4-2-1	CDBA
4-1-2-3	DABC
4-1-3-2	DACB
4-2-1-3	DBAC
4-2-3-1	DBCA
4-3-1-2	DCAB
4-3-2-1	DCBA

Class Judged.....

Judging Score.....

Reasons Score.....

Total Score.....

Place an X opposite the combination of numbers (or letters) which you determine to be the correct placing.

YOUR NUMBER

PLANT/MECH. SCI. PLACING CARD FOR 4-H JUDGING EVENT

4-H Member's Name _____ Club _____

INT.

Be sure when judging Class 1 that you use the column for Class 1, etc. Place an X opposite the combination of numbers which you determine to be the correct placing in that class.

Class 1
Vegetables

ABCD
ABDC
ACBD
ACDB
ADBC
ADCB
BACD
BADC
BCAD
BCDA
BDAC
BDCA
CABD
CADB
CBAD
CBDA
CDAB
CDBA
DABC
DACB
DBAC
DBCA
DCAB
DCBA

Class 2
Vegetables

ABCD
ABDC
ACBD
ACDB
ADBC
ADCB
BACD
BADC
BCAD
BCDA
BDAC
BDCA
CABD
CADB
CBAD
CBDA
CDAB
CDBA
DABC
DACB
DBAC
DBCA
DCAB
DCBA

Class 3
O. H.

ABCD
ABDC
ACBD
ACDB
ADBC
ADCB
BACD
BADC
BCAD
BCDA
BDAC
BDCA
CABD
CADB
CBAD
CBDA
CDAB
CDBA
DABC
DACB
DBAC
DBCA
DCAB
DCBA

Class 4
Woodworking

ABCD
ABDC
ACBD
ACDB
ADBC
ADCB
BACD
BADC
BCAD
BCDA
BDAC
BDCA
CABD
CADB
CBAD
CBDA
CDAB
CDBA
DABC
DACB
DBAC
DBCA
DCAB
DCBA

Class 5
Small Engines

ABCD
ABDC
ACBD
ACDB
ADBC
ADCB
BACD
BADC
BCAD
BCDA
BDAC
BDCA
CABD
CADB
CBAD
CBDA
CDAB
CDBA
DABC
DACB
DBAC
DBCA
DCAB
DCBA

Class 6
Small Engines

ABCD
ABDC
ACBD
ACDB
ADBC
ADCB
BACD
BADC
BCAD
BCDA
BDAC
BDCA
CABD
CADB
CBAD
CBDA
CDAB
CDBA
DABC
DACB
DBAC
DBCA
DCAB
DCBA

Class 7
Electricity

ABCD
ABDC
ACBD
ACDB
ADBC
ADCB
BACD
BADC
BCAD
BCDA
BDAC
BDCA
CABD
CADB
CBAD
CBDA
CDAB
CDBA
DABC
DACB
DBAC
DBCA
DCAB
DCBA

CLASS 1 _____ CLASS 2 _____ CLASS 3 _____ CLASS 4 _____ CLASS 5 _____ CLASS 6 _____ CLASS 7 _____

PLACING SCORES

FINAL SCORE

placings because cards were not marked or marked incorrectly.

CLASSES:

Each class will contain four animals or items, which are numbered from left to right when viewed from the rear. Each class will also be given a name and number. (e.g. Class 1 Holstein Aged Cows)

Each class is from 8-12 minutes in length, with the exception of reason classes which are fifteen minutes long. Reason classes are designated at the beginning of the contest.

II. PLACING THE CLASS

A) Obstacles

It is apparent that there are several obstacles that one must overcome in judging. For example, one might not be able to "see" the class. This is because they concentrate on so many small points that it is difficult to view the whole animal or product. Some also find it hard to arrive at a logical placing. This is usually the result of a lack of experience and confidence

B) How to Overcome These Obstacles

In order to overcome the obstacles mentioned above, one should:

1. Stand back and observe the class. Be sure to see all sides of each object. Also be sure to see animals on the move.
2. Look for distinct placings or pairs. By finding easy top and bottom pairs, you will reduce the number of choices you must make.
3. Try not to change your original placing. Remember that first impressions are usually the best.

4. Place the class on quality. Refer to the standard of perfection or ideal of the species or product being judged.
5. Give special attention to the most important points. Don't dwell on insignificant points.
6. Listen to others. An amazing amount of knowledge can be obtained by listening to official judges at shows and contests giving critiques at the end of judging.
7. Practice. The only way to develop the skills and confidence necessary to make sound logical placings is through experience.

III. REASONS

A) Why give Reasons?

Reasons are the most difficult part of a judging contest. Often a contestant will find that it is difficult to express his logic in placing a class the way he did. This usually results from a lack of confidence and experience in this area.

Reasons, however, play an important role in judging. They require the individual to orally express and defend his logic in placing a particular class as he did. Thus, reasons will help the individual to think more clearly, state his thoughts more expertly, improve his speaking poise and develop his memory.

B) Organization

All reasons should have the same basic format and should contain the following:

1. An opening statement. that will lead into the body of the reasons. It should contain a strong, familiar statement such as "good afternoon", and the placing of the class. Example: Good afternoon, my placing of this class of Holstein Aged Cows is 1-4-2-3.

2. Pair comparisons should compare the top, middle and bottom pairs. Always start with the reasons for placing the top pair. At the end of each comparison of a pair, you can grant strong points to the lower placed item. Begin with the top pair, followed by the middle pair and then the bottom pair.
3. Closing statement should tell why an object was placed at the bottom of the class and should let the official know that the reasons presentation is completed. (e.g. In placing 3 at the bottom of the class, I admire her dairy character, however she lacks the size and scale to go any higher in this class today. Thank you.

C) Terms

Below is a description of the different types of terms and some examples of each.

1. Descriptive terms are used to describe the appearance of the animal or product. These terms vary from one species or product to the other. (e.g. More size and scale)
2. Comparative terms are used to compare one object to another. For example:
 - a. has an advantage in.....
 - b. excelled in.....
 - c. showed more.....
 - d. displayed greater.....
 - e. exhibited more.....
3. Transition terms are used when moving from one pair to another. For example:
 - a. Moving to my middle (bottom) pair
 - b. In placing _____ over _____
 - c. In a logical (close) (easy) (difficult) placing
 - d. In leaving _____ at the bottom of the class

4. Granting terms are used when giving an advantage to the item placed at the bottom of a pair.

Granting terms:

- a. I will grant
- b. However I do grant
- c. However _____ must be given an advantage in
- d. In making this placing, I recognize

D) Notes

When judging a reasons class, one should always leave enough time to take notes. Since reason classes are fifteen minutes long it is important to place the class within five minutes. This will allow ten minutes to take notes.

Notes should be brief, accurate, and easy to understand. They should contain the name and placing of the class as well as information about each animal or product in the class. They should also contain reasons for placing the class as you did.

Here is a sample set of notes on a class of Holstein Aged cows.

1-4-2-3

- 1 - tallest, correctest udder, white
- 2-4 - spotted
- 3 - youngest appearance, smallest, black

1/4 size, body cap, bloom of udder, height and width of rear udder smooth front udder

4/2 taller, longer, dairy char. style & balance, topline, feet & legs (2 weak joints) grant 2 higher rear udder

2/3 size & scale, body cap, bloom of udder, grant 3 topline, feet & legs, (2 sickle hocked)

3 bottom admire style & balance & dairy char. lacks size, scale udder development

E) General Points in Giving Reasons

1. Make true and correct statements. Accuracy is the important point in giving reasons, smoothness is second.
2. Be brief and to the point. Reasons should range from two-four minutes in length.
3. Emphasize important points. Be sure to give major points first. Don't point out minor differences unless there is a close placing.
4. Use correct terminology. A knowledge of descriptive terms for a particular species or items is important. Do not use dairy terms when judging beef or clothing terms when judging an electrical project.
5. Do not memorize a "canned" set of reasons. A "canned" set of reasons is a set that is written before the contest and used for every set of reasons (with some modification).
6. Learn as many terms as possible. This will make the reasons sound more interesting.
7. Use correct English, avoid monotones and speak slowly.
8. Avoid excess movement. This is distracting to the judge.

IV. SAMPLE CLASS



The above class of circles placed 1-2-4-3.

1-2-3-4	
1-2-4-3	x
1-3-2-4	
1-4-3-2	

To mark the card, place an "x" in the box next to the placing 1-2-4-3 as shown above.

The following is a set of notes taken on this class for the purpose of giving reasons:

Class E - Circles

Placing 1-2-4-3

1 - most perfect circle
2 - smaller
3-4 off shape

1/2 larger, more nearly perfect circle
2/4 more uniform, more perfect circle
4/3 smooth, more perfect circle
3 - lacks uniformity

This is an example of a set of reasons derived from the notes taken on this class:

"Good afternoon - The most logical placing of this class of circles is 1-2-4-3. In placing 1 at the top of the class and over 2 giving it an advantage in being a larger more nearly perfect circle, by having a greater diameter and circumference and showing more overall uniformity.

Moving on to my middle pair 2 over 4 in exhibiting more uniformity and being more round. However I do grant 4 size and scale.

Leaving 3 at the bottom of the class I do admire its size. However it lacked the uniformity and over-all roundness of the circles above it and could not go any higher in this class today.

Thank you"

V. SUPPLEMENTARY JUDGING MATERIALS

The following materials are available for review at the 4-H office:

Dairy Cattle

1. Judging Dairy Cattle (\$2.00/copy)
From: California State University Fresno Dairy Unit
Fresno, CA 93710
2. Judging Dairy Cattle
From: Modesto Junior College
Modesto, CA 95350 (209) 526-2000
3. Judging Registered Holsteins (30¢/copy)
From: Holstein Association of America
1 South Main Street
Brattleboro, UT 05301
4. Milking Shorthorn Judging Manual (\$1.00/copy)
From: The Milking Shorthorn Society
1722-JJ South Glenstone
Springfield, MO 65804
5. The Milky Swiss Look (25¢/copy)
From: The Brownswiss Cattle Breeders Assoc.
P. O. Box 1038
Beloit, Wisconsin 53511
6. Jersey Judging Made Easy
From: The American Jersey Cattle Club
P. O. Box 27310
Columbus, Ohio 43227

Horse

1. Appaloosa Horse (Judging Guide)
Appaloosa Horse Club Registration Guide
From: Appaloosa Horse Club
Box 8403
Moscow, ID 83843

2. AMHA Youth Leaders Judging Guide (50¢/copy)
Anatomical Chart of the Morgan Horse
From: American Morgan Horse Association, Inc.
Oneida Co. Airport Industrial Park, Box 1
Mestmoreland, NY 13490

Rabbits

1. Book of Standards
From: The American Rabbit Breeders Association
1925 South Main, Box 426
Bloomington, IL 61701

Other recommended materials that are not available for review at the 4-H Office:

Dairy Goats

1. Dairy Goat Judging Techniques (\$15.95 + \$1.00 postage/copy)
From: The Dairy Goat Journal
P. O. Box 1808
Scottsdale, Arizona 85252
2. ADGA Judges Handbook (\$1.50/copy)
From: The American Dairy Goat Association
P. O. Box 865
Spindale, N.C. 28160
3. Paint Horse Color Rule
From: The American Paint Horse Association
Box 18519
Fort Worth, TX 76118

Livestock

1. Learning to Judge Angus Cattle
From: The American Angus Association
3201 Frederick Boulevard
St. Joseph, MO

2. The Livestock Judging Manual, author, Bill Jacobs
(\$3.15/copy)
From: Cal Poly Vocational Education Productions
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

Other

Judging Beef, Judging Sheep, and Judging Swine -- copies of these publications will be available at the 4-H office

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