

# Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources



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**MEMO TO:** Extension Educators with 4-H Responsibilities

**FROM:** Rusty J. Gosz // Cathy Mapes  
Extension 4-H & Youth Livestock Specialist // OSU Youth Livestock Intern

**DATE:** February 28, 2019

**SUBJECT:** STATE 4-H QUALIFYING LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

Listed below are important facts about the 2019 State 4-H Qualifying Livestock Judging Contest, which will be conducted on **April 27, 2019** under the direction of the OSU Animal and Food Sciences Department. Please inform your 4-H members and volunteer leaders and share this packet with coaches.

1. The contest will be held at the Oklahoma State University Animal Science Arena (on McElroy and west of Western Street) on **April 27, 2019**. This year's contest will be conducted at the same time as the State FFA Interscholastic Livestock Judging Contest. **A pre-registration for the state 4-H contest is now required.** Pre-Register your state 4-H teams and individuals via e-mail to [cathy.mapes@okstate.edu](mailto:cathy.mapes@okstate.edu). Send both the "4-H Pre-Registration Form" and the "4-H Team Certification Form" in to complete pre-registration. This will be a nomination of your teams and individuals....**REQUIRED to compete. DEADLINE: Pre-Registration is due to Cathy Mapes by April 12, 2019.** Complete the registration process with your nominated teams and individuals the morning of the contest. Only counties with nominated teams and Individuals will be allowed to complete registration the morning of the contest.
2. Contest day registration will begin at **7:00 a.m.**, and the contest will start at **7:30 a.m.**. All Teams (juniors & seniors) must have the **4-H Team Certification Form** properly completed, signed and in their possession at the time of registration. Junior 4-H member's are 8 (or third grade by Sept.1) - 7th grade, and senior 4-H members are 8th-12th grade.
3. This contest is intended for teams – three or four members. Each county may enter a maximum of three teams. Only teams will be eligible to qualify for national contests. But, **individuals** who are certified 4-H members will be able to participate. All participants in the contest will judge **ten classes**. **Seniors will give four sets of oral reasons and will answer ten questions on at least one class, while juniors will give two sets of oral reasons.** Contestants are ineligible to participate in out-of-state 4-H judging events if they have participated in official post-secondary (university, college, Jr. College, or technical school) competitive events of a similar nature in the same subject matter area or if they were a member of a post-secondary team undergoing training in preparation for an event.
4. PLEASE NOTE: Performance data with emphasis on EPD's **may** be provided in some swine and beef breeding classes. The data will be similar to the data that have been provided at most of the OSU Animal Science Field Days.
5. Contestants who have judged in the American Royal (Kansas City) 4-H Livestock Judging Contest and the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest (Louisville) are not eligible to return to those respective contests. **Teams who have judged the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest (Louisville) are not eligible to return to Louisville or any other national 4-H contest, BUT, starting in 2011, those**

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**teams are still eligible to return and compete at the Oklahoma State 4-H Qualifying Livestock Judging Contest.** Oklahoma 4-H teams returning from previous Louisville competition will not be allowed to advance if they qualify as they are deemed ineligible nationally (Louisville, Kansas City, and Denver), but they will be considered eligible to continue competing in livestock judging in the state of Oklahoma.

6. Youth who have represented 4-H or another youth organization at an event that serves as the national 4-H contest, or its equivalent, are ineligible to return to that contest as a representative of Oklahoma 4-H. Participation in equivalent out-of-state contests will be handled on an individual basis. The Oklahoma State 4-H Office will have final ruling on contest eligibility.
7. The state 4-H livestock judging qualifying contest only qualifies teams for advancement to the National 4-H competition in Louisville and the American Royal in Kansas City. The only qualification contest for the National Western in Denver Colorado is the Tulsa State Fair 4-H livestock judging contest.
8. No single Oklahoma 4-H livestock judging team can represent Oklahoma and attend two national livestock judging contests in one given judging year.
9. If at least one county team member at the Oklahoma State 4-H Qualifying Contest has competed at Louisville at the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, that entire team will be then considered ineligible to qualify for the National Team representing Oklahoma at the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest. Until the national contest guidelines change, only complete teams, which have members who have not previously competed at the national Contest, will be eligible to compete and represent their respective state.

### **RULES OF THE CONTEST**

- I. One to three teams composed of three or four members may be entered by each county. The three high scores will be considered the official contestants. Ties will be broken by alternate's score and if still tied, by team reasons.
- II. A 4-H team consists of three or four contestants. Each team and contestant will have to provide a properly completed 4-H Team Certification Form.
- III. No one will be allowed in the arena during the contest other than contest officials, judges, and contestants. Coaches may see the classes in the livestock holding area after the oral reasons session begins, but are not allowed in the arena during the contest.
- IV. No one except contest personnel will be allowed in the tabulation room. Any county or coach entering the tabulation room will be automatically disqualified.
- V. No contestant shall be permitted at the OSU livestock barns or the Animal Science arena to inspect the animals to be used in this contest from January 15 until the state 4-H contest of that same year. Any violation of this rule will be sufficient to bar such student or teams from the contest.
- VI. Registration will begin at 7:00 a.m. Instructions will be given at 7:30 a.m. and the contest will start shortly thereafter, approximately 7:30 a.m. No team shall be allowed to enter after instructions have been given and contestants divided into groups.
- VII. While the contest is in progress, there shall be no conferring between contestants. A warning will be given after the first violation and any further violation will warrant disqualification. Furthermore, contestants are not permitted to carry cell phones or any electronic devices during the contest. Contestants that violate this rule will be disqualified.

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- VIII. Ten classes of livestock of four animals each will be placed. There will be at least one class each of: breeding goats, breeding sheep, market lambs, market swine, breeding swine, market cattle and breeding cattle. At least one class of breeding cattle will include performance records and production scenario. The classes may be shown loose or by holders.
- IX. Four sets of oral reasons, for seniors, and two sets of oral reasons, for juniors, will be designated by the Superintendent at the beginning of the contest. Reasons will be given on one class each of sheep, swine, cattle and performance breeding cattle. Reasons will be given after all classes have been placed. Notes will not be permitted in the reasons room for the senior division reasons competition. 4-H reasons contest location is TBA, and notification will be updated prior to contest and communicated with pre-registered teams.
- X. The contest will include at least one set of questions. That will provide ten questions worth five points each on one of the classes of either beef, sheep, goats, or hogs. Contestants will not be permitted to utilize their notes while answering questions.
- XI. Performance Records may be used in the placing and the female selection classes of beef, sheep, and swine. Performance criteria, when used shall be based on standards developed and used by; the Beef Improvement Federation, the Sheep Industry Development Program, Inc., and the National Swine Improvement Federation.

Beef Improvement Federation  
Department of Animal Sciences and  
Industry Kansas State University  
Northwest Research Extension Center  
105 Experiment Farm Road  
Colby, Kansas 67701

National Swine Improvement Federation  
204 Polk Hall  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7621

Sheep Industry Development Program, Inc.  
200 Clayton Street  
Denver, CO 80206

- XII. Go to [judgingcard.com](http://judgingcard.com) for example of CDE judging card. Or see attached link for form 705J-1.pdf