

4-H/FFA Wool Contest Rules

*****Updated July 1, 2018***

4-H & FFA WOOL JUDGING CONTEST ENTRY

Entry Fee: \$50 per team / \$15 per additional individual

Superintendent: Heather Pearce Assistant Superintendent: Laura Pierce

1. **The Wool Judging Contest will be conducted Friday, January 18, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. Contestants report to the Adams County Fairgrounds between 2:30 and 2:45 p.m.**
2. Each 4-H club or FFA school may enter a maximum of 2 teams and an unlimited number of additional individuals.
3. Teams will be comprised of a maximum of four (4) members and a minimum of three (3) members. The scores of the three (3) high scoring individuals on each team will be totaled for the team scores. All youth entered (including those on a team and alternates) will be eligible for individual scores and awards.
4. Eligibility:
 - A. Youth ages 8 to 18 (as of January 1, 2019) may compete.
 - B. Youth must be in good standing in a 4-H club or FFA class to compete.
 - C. There are no restrictions on the number of years a 4-H or FFA member can compete in the NWSS 4-H/FFA Wool Judging Contest.
 - D. Contestants must not have participated in post-secondary (i.e. college, jr. college, etc.) course work or be in a post-secondary team undergoing training relating to wool or fiber.
 - E. Wool judging contestants and coaches cannot enter the floor of the judging area prior to the contest, including during the Collegiate Judging Contest.
 - F. Only officials of the contest will be allowed on the floor area of the contest. All others are required to have the permission of the Superintendent to enter the contest area.
5. Judging will be based on the following:
 - A. Classes: 50 points possible per class. Fifteen (15) minutes will be allowed for the placing of each class of four (4) fleeces. Contestants will be asked to stand back one minute at the beginning and one minute at the end of the class to observe.
 - i. Two (2) classes of breed fleeces. Fleeces to be placed on the basis of breed requirements.

- ii. Two (2) classes of commercial fleeces. Fleeces to be placed according to commercial requirements.
- iii. Two (2) classes of handspinning fleeces. Fleeces to be placed according to handspinning requirements.

B. Questions: 16 questions will be asked on each of the 6 classes, during the class time. Each question is worth up to 2 points, thus questions are worth a total of 192 points.

C. Grading Rail: Fifteen (15) fleeces will be scored for grade (blood grade), length and yield. Contestants will have 10 minutes total and is worth up to 225 points. The following length requirements will be used:

Wool Quality Grades			Staple Lengths		
Blood Grade	Spin Count Grade	Fiber Diameter (microns)	Staple Lengths	French Combing	Clothing
Fine	64s, 70s, 80s	≤ 22.04	> 3.00"	2.00"-3.00"	< 2.00"
Half	60s and 62s	22.05-24.94	> 3.25"	2.25"-3.25"	< 2.25"
3/8	56s and 58s	24.95-27.84	> 3.50"	-	< 3.50"
1/4	50s and 54s	27.85-30.99	> 4.00"	-	< 4.00"
Low 1/4	48s and lower	≥ 31.00	> 4.00"	-	< 4.00"

D. A tie or ties for High Team or High Individual (overall) will be broken on the grading rail. Placing ties will be broken by questions and total scores will break grading rail ties. Questions will be broken on the lowest placing score, then on grading.

- 6. Supplies: The National Western Stock Show will provide scan sheets. Students should have a clipboard (with no measurement/rulers), pencils and blank paper.
- 7. Contestants are warned against rough handling of contest fleeces. Any contestant who violates this rule will be asked to place the remainder of the classes without handling.
- 8. Cheating will not be tolerated; contestants may be disqualified for cheating. From the time the Contest begins to the time the Contest is officially complete, there will be no conferring between contestants. Cell phones and electronic watches and other devices are prohibited. All supplies the student brings must be blank.
- 9. Awards Banquet: The Awards Banquet will be held **Friday, January 18, 2019** at **6:30 p.m.** at the Adams County Fairgrounds Waymire Dome. Each coach (maximum of 2 per club/school) will receive admittance to the awards banquet. No admittance will be allowed without confirmation with the contest superintendent. No exceptions. Additional tickets must be purchased with entry form for administrators, alternates, spouses or other guests.