

4-H Judging Contest Guide

This guide's purpose is to give the basics of 4-H judging contests and to provide information for further self-study. Judging contests are normally held at 4-H Day and during the County Fair. All 4-H members are eligible to participate and do not need to be enrolled in any specific project(s) to do so.

Marking cards for quality judging classes

An example of the Kansas 4-H judging card is shown here. Always be sure to mark the class and your name and/or contestant number on each card. Some contests use judging sheets instead of individual cards, however the concept is the same. The items you are judging are placed from BEST to WORST and that correct order of numbers is circled. In the example shown, 1 is the best choice followed by 4, then 2, and 3 is the worst choice, so the class is placed 1423 and that order is circled.

(White)

	A <u>1-2-3-4</u>
	B <u>1-2-4-3</u>
CONTESTANT	C <u>1-3-2-4</u>
Number <u>300</u>	D <u>1-3-4-2</u>
<i>Chris Clover</i>	E <u>1-4-2-3</u>
	F <u>1-4-3-2</u>
	G <u>2-1-3-4</u>
	H <u>2-1-4-3</u>
KANSAS	I <u>2-3-1-4</u>
4-H JUDGING CARD	J <u>2-3-4-1</u>
	K <u>2-4-1-3</u>
	L <u>2-4-3-1</u>
Class No. _____	M <u>3-1-2-4</u>
	N <u>3-1-4-2</u>
Class Name _____	O <u>3-2-1-4</u>
<i>Steers</i>	P <u>3-2-4-1</u>
	Q <u>3-4-1-2</u>
	R <u>3-4-2-1</u>
	S <u>4-1-2-3</u>
	T <u>4-1-3-2</u>
	U <u>4-2-1-3</u>
	V <u>4-2-3-1</u>
	W <u>4-3-1-2</u>
	X <u>4-3-2-1</u>
_____ REASON SCORE	

Example Judging Card

(White)

	A <u>1-2-3-4</u>
	B <u>1-2-4-3</u>
CONTESTANT	C <u>1-3-2-4</u>
Number _____	D <u>1-3-4-2</u>
	E <u>1-4-2-3</u>
	F 1-4-3-2
	G <u>2-1-3-4</u>
	H <u>2-1-4-3</u>
KANSAS	I <u>2-3-1-4</u>
4-H JUDGING CARD	J 2-3-4-1
	K 2-4-1-3
	L <u>2-4-3-1</u>
Class No. _____	M <u>3-1-2-4</u>
	N <u>3-1-4-2</u>
Class Name _____	O <u>3-2-1-4</u>
	P <u>3-2-4-1</u>
	Q <u>3-4-1-2</u>
	R <u>3-4-2-1</u>
	S <u>4-1-2-3</u>
	T <u>4-1-3-2</u>
	U <u>4-2-1-3</u>
	V <u>4-2-3-1</u>
	W <u>4-3-1-2</u>
	X <u>4-3-2-1</u>
_____ REASON SCORE	

How NOT to mark judging cards

Types of Judging Contests

Family & Consumer Science Judging

- FCS Judging is currently being revamped on the state level. More information will be provided in this guide when it becomes available.

Horticulture Judging

- Contest consists of three parts; quality judging of plant materials, plant identification, and a written exam.
- Plant identification study site: <http://www.ksre.k-state.edu/hort-judging/>
- Written exam study materials: http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/contests/horticulture-judging/docs/2015_and_2016_Written_Exam_Info_Hort_Judg.docx
- Quality judging guidelines: <http://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/docs/hort%20judging%20factors%20and%20point%20values.pdf>

Livestock Judging

- Contest consists of quality judging of livestock and oral reasons.
- Livestock Judging Guide for 4-H Club Members: <http://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/S92.pdf>
- Reasons note taking page: <http://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/docs/livestock%20judging%20reasons.pdf>
- Websites with practice judging classes: <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agripedia/agmania/livestock/>
<http://extension.usu.edu/cyberlivestock/htm/livestock-judging>

Photography Judging

- Contest consists of quality judging of photographs, a problems class, and a written exam.
- Practice Classes: <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/contests/photography-judging/index.html>
- Resources to study for the written exam are available to be borrowed from the Extension Office