

## Regional and National Stock Judging Competition Guidelines

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### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Stock Judging .....	2
Rules and Regulations .....	2
Procedure .....	3
Parading of Animals.....	3
Judging Cards .....	3
Competition Timing .....	4
Oral Section Guidelines.....	4
Notes for Overjudges .....	5
Handy Hints on the Hormel Slide & Judging Competitions by Geoff Mayo.....	6
How to Set the Slide.....	7
Dairy Cattle Junior Judging Competition.....	8
Beef Cattle Judging Competition .....	8
Meat and Wool Breeds Sheep Judging Competition.....	9
Dairy Cattle Judging Competition .....	10
Beef Cattle Judging Competition .....	11
Meat Breeds Sheep Judging Competition.....	12

## Stock Judging

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### **Aim**

The aim of the Stock Judging Competition is to develop an interest and skill level of stock assessment in young people and this generation of farmers.

### **Competed at**

Regional through to National level

### **National Final**

Held during Grand Final Week

The ability to be a good judge of stock is a skill that can be easily learnt by competing in the Stock Judging competitions. The skills learnt here will provide a lifetime of benefits for future stock assessment abilities.

At your Club and Regional stock judging competitions, the emphasis is on learning the basics. The guidelines for stock judging will follow the current RAS Junior guidelines (attached). It is recommended that clubs/regions organise a coaching day and invite past and current experienced stock assessors to help out. A & P Show Society judges are also a good source of knowledge.

National Stock Judging Competition is held during Grand Final week, and is open to all NZYF members to enter.

## Rules and Regulations

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1. This is a master set of Beef Cattle Judging Instruction Sheets to photocopy for competitions.
2. Sheets should be given to Over judges and Competitors with time for them to read through before the competition begins
3. Additional requisites – Competitors Numbers and 3 sets of Breastplates (1-4)

## **Procedure**

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1. One class of animal are judged by the competitors,
2. Animals must be numbered by the numbers 1-4, and not A, B, C, D with relevant age, weights and measurements on them. This is essential when using the Hormel Computing Slide.
3. The Competition Judge, in filling out his/her Master Card is required to note a numerical difference between animals, as directed in the instructions for the use of the Hormel Computing Slide.
4. Non -Oral judging will take place first. Competitors will be allowed 8 minutes to judge the four animals and to complete each judging card.
5. Each competitor in the oral class is allowed three minutes for ringcraft and speaking.
6. The winner of the competition is marked out of a maximum of 100 points – 50 for placings in the non-Oral Class and 50 for the oral class. (Adjusted accordingly if less classes)
7. Competitors in the oral class are scored on their ringcraft, accuracy of observation, their comparative statements, speaking ability and general presentation and dress.
8. In the case of a dead heat the contestant with the highest points for non-oral judging will be declared the winner, or if there is still a dead heat the Competition Judge will have the final say.

## **Parading of Animals**

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1. Animals paraded 1, 2, 3, 4 in that order in a clockwise direction for two minutes.
2. Animals then lined up head to tail for two minutes.
3. Animals then lead around one more circuit for two minutes.
4. Animals lined up side by side for remaining two minutes.
5. Cards to be handed in at the end of eight minutes.
6. Maximum total time eight minutes.

## **Judging Cards**

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1. Both cards are simple in design. All that is required by competitors is to place animals 1 to 4.
2. It is essential that one Overjudge officiate for all classes.
3. The Overjudge when filling out their master card, is to note a numerical difference between animals as directed in the instructions for use of the Hormel Computing Slide.
4. The oral section guideline may be retained by the competitor. It is designed to ensure competitors use comparative details in their oral description of the class.
5. The Reason Card is used to note those aspects in which the animal placed down the line is better than the animal placed before it.

## Competition Timing

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To maintain the interest of competitors, the animals and the spectators it is important the entire competition is completed in approximately 1 hour. In the case of 1 class of animals being used, the timing should be as follows:

Judging 1class	8 minutes
Comments from Overjudge on non-oral class	3 minutes
Six competitors' oral tests	3 minutes each 18 mins
Comments from overjudge on oral class	3 mins
Announcement and presentation of awards	12 mins
<b>TOTAL TIME:</b>	<b>44 mins</b>

During oral judging, all competitors except one at a time should be taken out of the hearing range of the judging ring

In order to maintain the impetus of the competition, immediately the Overjudge has completed his/her final comments, the competition results should be ready to be announced and the awards and presentations made.

## Oral Section Guidelines

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1. You are allowed one minute to parade the animals for one circuit of the ring and to place them in your order of merit.
2. You will then be allowed two minutes to clearly express your views to the Overjudges and spectators the reasons you placed the exhibits in a particular order.
3. Have your reasons organised and emphasise the most important points you wish to make.
4. The main objective when giving your reasons is to inform the judge that you saw and compared each animal in the class.
5. It is important that you make comparisons between animals rather than describe individual animals.
6. Commence your oral reasoning as follows: "I placed this class 4, 1, 3, 2".
7. Give the most important reasons first and remember to use comparative terms.
8. Where necessary you will then follow with: "In my opinion No 1 is better than 4 in .....". This demonstrates to the judge the accuracy of your priorities. Mention major faults, if any.
9. Continue in similar manner by comparing and granting the middle pair and finally the bottom pair.

### Remember

- Be concise;
- Show conviction in your placings;
- Give important reasons first;
- Use comparative terms.

### Dress

Competitors must be neatly and suitably attired. Male competitors must wear a tie and female competitors must be attired to a similar standard. Points will be deducted for poor presentation. Shorts and thongs are not permitted.

## Notes for Overjudges

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In the selection of a class of animals for judging competitions, the aim should be to get a group of four upon whose placing experienced judges, after careful inspection and consideration, would be likely to agree. As a general rule these should be either four bulls, four steers, four cows or four heifers. It is probably better if animals of similar age are selected for each class. Where animals of widely different ages have to be used, the ages should be given and it should be made clear to the competitors that each animal is to be judged on its present showing and not on what it has done or might do.

A suitable group might be made up of a fairly clear leader, a fairly obvious 'tail' and two others that present a more difficult choice. They will be judged against the standard of what is considered a good Beef Breed type, rather than one that pays strict attention to specific breed points. It is probably better if animals of similar age are selected for each class.

Prior to the competition the Overjudge will select the animals to be judged - this can be done a day or two before the competition if required. On the day of the competition the Overjudge will decide on the correct placing of the animals and his/her placings will be noted on the Master Card.

The Overjudge, in filling out his/her Master Card, is required to note a numerical difference between animals, as directed in instructions for the use of the Hormel Computing Slide. This slide shows the degree of penalty as related to the degree of difference between placings, and the competitor is scored accordingly.

A competitor is in as good a position as is the Overjudge to observe both the good points and the defects of the animals. But even if he/she does so, he/she may draw different conclusions because he/she does not give those good and bad points the same importance as does the Overjudge. This difference of opinion will be reflected in the competitor's low score for placing and he/she should not be further penalised in the oral test if his/her observation has been accurate and the Overjudge considers the reasoning to be logical. When assessing a competitor's oral performance the overjudge allows two minutes for stating his/her reasons for the placings. If he/she finishes in less than this time, but has said all that was needed to support his/her case, he/she should not be penalised. On the other hand, if he/she greatly exceeds the two minutes, marks should be deducted from the 15 allowed for 'Speaking' etc. After allocating points for each heading to a competitor in the oral section, the Overjudge hands the score card immediately to the steward. When assessing a competitor's oral performance, the Overjudge should not seek to access the competitor's score for placing.

During the competition and at its conclusion the Overjudge is asked to give his/her own reasons for the placing of the animals, preferably with the animals present. He/she might also make comment on the various oral reasons and speaking styles of the competitors.

In the interests of maintaining full spectator and competitor interest in the competition it is important that it be, as far as possible, confined to a time limit. Overjudges are therefore asked to try and confine their comments to the times suggested in the "Competition Procedure", for all Beef Breeds judging procedure.

### **Dress**

Competitors must be neatly and suitably attired. Male competitors must wear a tie and female competitors must be attired to a similar standard (a tie or scarf). Points will be deducted for poor presentation. Shorts and thongs are not permitted.

## **Handy Hints on the Hormel Slide & Judging Competitions by Geoff Mayo**

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*This is an American Invention that is held copyright by George A Hormel & Co. invented in 1975.*

1. Four animals, birds, produce etc. are to be used at all times. It is usual to have contestants place two or three classes of four.
2. Always use the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4. By using these numbers, they can be put into twenty four possible placings.
3. Contestants can obtain a maximum of 50 points per class and are scored down according to variations in their placings compared to the Overjudge's placings.
4. The Overjudge will have inspected the animals etc and have a good idea how he/she will place them before they enter the judging ring, but I suggest that the Overjudge has another look at them as they are being paraded, so that he/she views them under the same conditions as the contestant sees them.
5. After completing placing decisions, he/she will then proceed to put what we call a cut or split between the 1st & 2nd placing, 2nd & 3rd placing and 3rd & 4th placing.

It appears that a lot of people do not understand how the Overjudge arrives at the decision of the cuts.

The total of the cuts added together must not be under 3 and not more than 15. If they total 15, the middle number cannot be larger than 5. If they total 14, the middle number cannot be larger than 8.

If the Overjudge decides that the first two animals are very close, he/she will put a cut of 1 or 2 between them but if he/she feels that there is a lot of difference, he/she will put a much larger cut. The same applies between 2nd & 3rd placing and between 3rd & 4th placing.

From the contestant's point of view it simply means that if he/she has two animals that he/she has placed opposite to the Overjudge and there is a small cut between them, very few points will be lost, but if the cut is greater the contestant will lose more points. The fewer the faults between the animals the smaller the cut and vice versa.

An Oral is then conducted, which means that the selected contestants must tell the Overjudge and spectators why he/she placed the animal in the order he/she has.

In competitions where contestant numbers are larger than say 10, it is usual to select the Top 6 contestants with the higher total points after judging the non-oral classes to do the oral. This applies particularly in cattle classes as the animals get very tired being moved constantly, especially after the class judging. The spectators need to be considered - if competition is too long, they become bored and leave the ring.

The oral is judged on one class only. This class may be selected by the Overjudge or the contestants – it varies with the type of competition.

### Points to look for:

- 4 Animals (or whatever is being judged) must be used.
- Make sure that they are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4 not A, B, C, D
- A, B, C, D can be converted but with large numbers of contestants, this takes a lot of time and leaves room for error.
- The overjudge places the animals
- He/she will then proceed to put what we call a cut or split between each placing, 1st & 2nd placing, 2nd & 3rd placing, 3rd & 4th placing.
- Using as an example: Placings: 3 1 2 4
- Cut between animals: 4 1 5
- Total cut adds up to: **10**

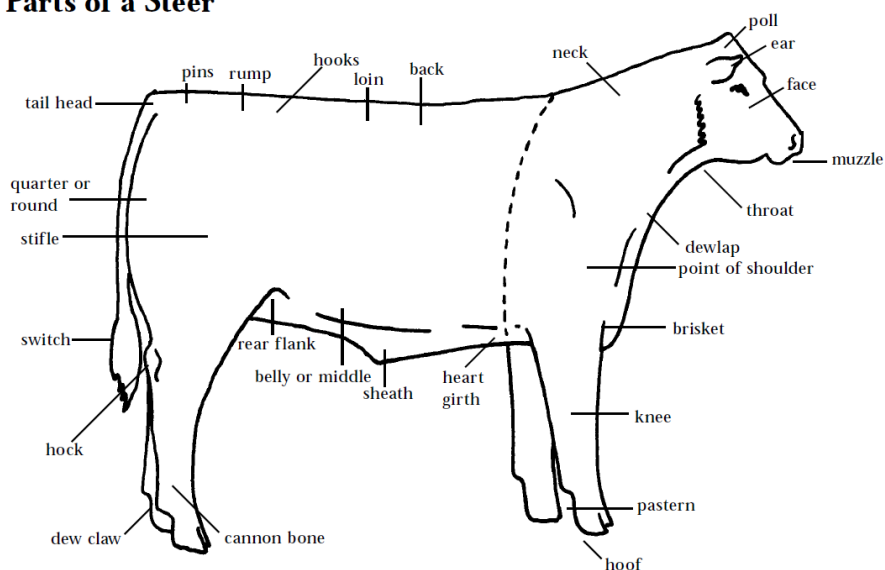
### How to Set the Slide

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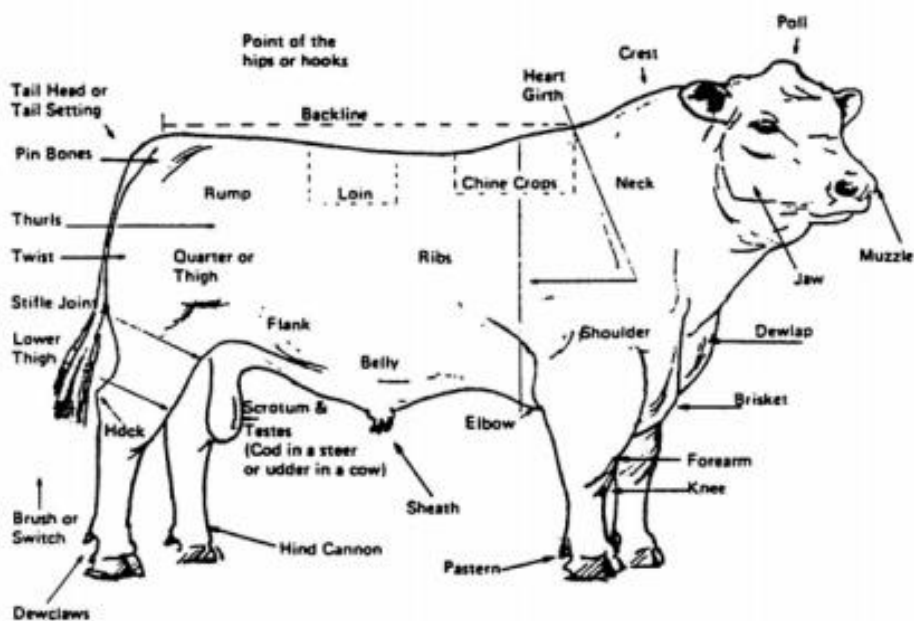
1. Take all cards from slide.
2. Find the white card that has the number 10 at the top and place this card on top of the remaining cards.
3. Now on the clear plastic card with the red numbers, find the numbers 3 1 2 4 on the top.
4. Place this card on top of the white card being used and put all other plastic cards at the back.
5. Gently put all cards back into slide – this keeps them tight.
6. Now push plastic card along until the numbers 3 1 2 4 appear at the top on the left side of the viewing space in the centre of slide.
7. Move white card along until the numbers 4 1 5 appear at the bottom of the viewing area.
8. After making sure that the placings and cut are lined up correctly, I suggest to place a clip on the slide to ensure that cards do not move.
9. It is a good idea to let the overjudge or someone else check to make sure it is correct.
10. Correct scores now appear directly opposite all twenty four possible placings as the contestants have placed them.

## Dairy Cattle Junior Judging Competition

### Parts of a Steer



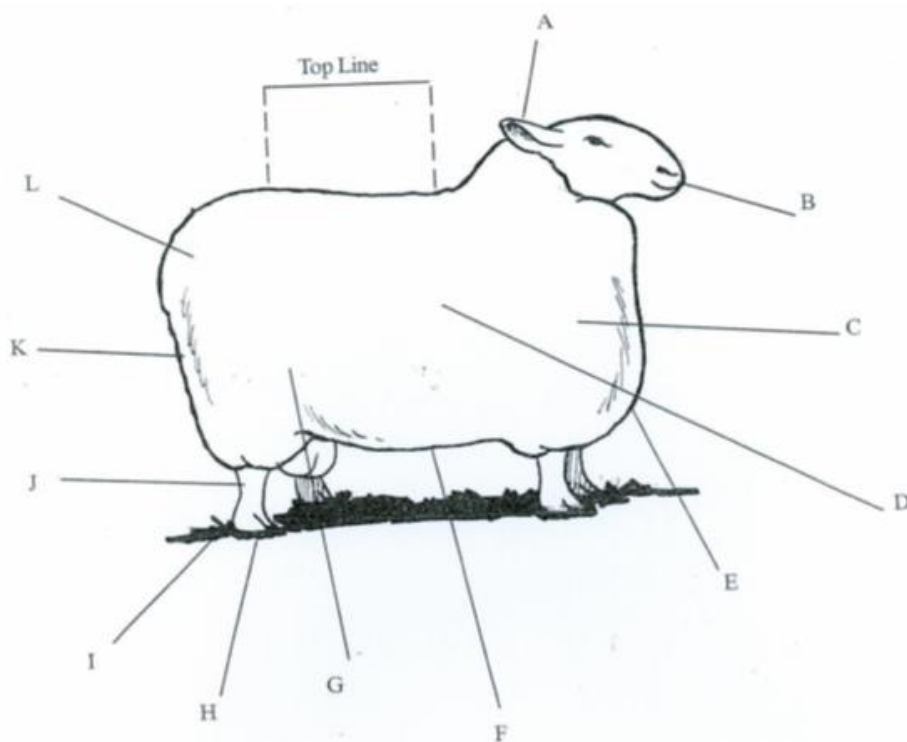
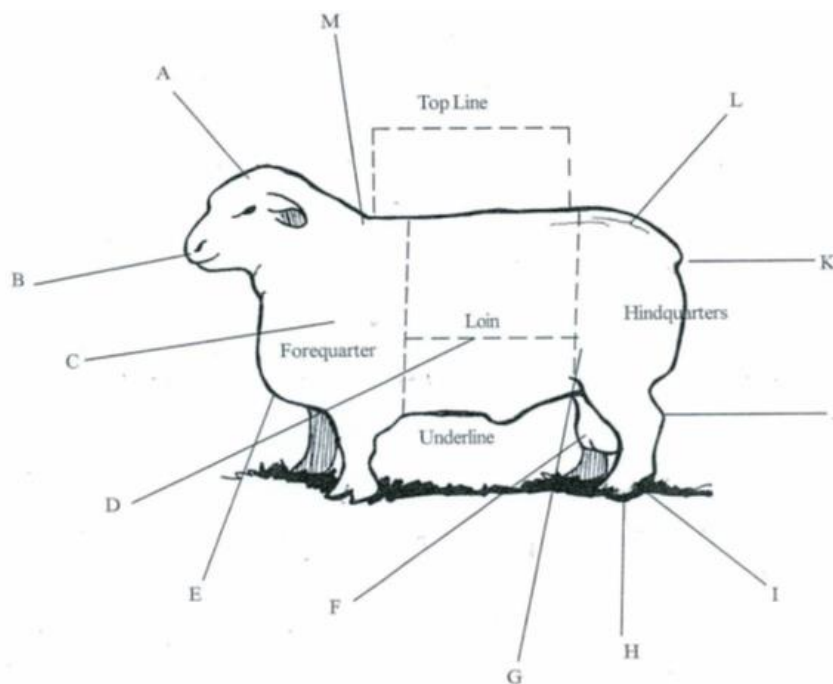
## Beef Cattle Judging Competition





## Meat and Wool Breeds Sheep Judging Competition

- A Poll
- B Muzzle
- C Shoulder
- D Ribs
- E Brisket
- F Testes
- G Flank
- H Hoof
- I Pasterns
- J Hocks
- K Tail
- L Rump
- M Withers



- A Ears
- B Muzzle
- C Shoulder wool
- D Ribs
- E Brisket
- F Belly wool
- G Flank
- H Hoof
- I Pasterns
- J Hocks
- K Breech wool
- L Rump

## Dairy Cattle Judging Competition

DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING COMPETITION – (NON ORAL)					
Competitors No..... Breed.....					
Placings	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	(50) max points

.....cut here.....

DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING COMPETITION – (NON ORAL)					
Competitors No..... Breed.....					
Placings	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	(50) max points

.....cut here.....

DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING COMPETITION – (ORAL)						
Competitors No..... Breed.....						
Breed .....	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	max points	Score
Competitors Placing					50	
<b>Oral</b>						
(a) Presentation and dress					10	
(b) Accuracy of observation					10	
(c) Speaking ability					15	
(d) Ability to compare animals					15	
Total					50	

## Beef Cattle Judging Competition

BEEF CATTLE JUDGING COMPETITION – (NON ORAL)					
Competitors No.....					
Breed.....					
Placings	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	(50) max points

.....cut here.....

BEEF CATTLE JUDGING COMPETITION – (NON ORAL)					
Competitors No.....					
Breed.....					
Placings	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	(50) max points

.....cut here.....

BEEF CATTLE JUDGING COMPETITION – (ORAL)						
Competitors No.....						
Breed.....						
Breed .....	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	max points	Score
Competitors Placing					50	
<b>Oral</b>						
(a) Presentation and dress					10	
(b) Accuracy of observation					10	
(c) Speaking ability					15	
(d) Ability to compare animals					15	
Total					50	

## Meat Breeds Sheep Judging Competition

VISUAL CLASS MEAT BREEDS – SHORT WOOL					
Competitors No..... Breed.....					
Placings	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	(50) max points

.....cut here.....

VISUAL CLASS MEAT BREEDS – LONG WOOL					
Competitors No..... Breed.....					
Placings	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	(50) max points

.....cut here.....

MEAT & WOOL BREEDS SHEET JUDGING COMPETITION – (ORAL)						
Competitors No..... Breed.....						
Breed .....	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	max points	Score
Competitors Placing					50	
Competitions Handling						
<b>Oral</b>						
(e) Presentation and dress					10	
(f) Accuracy of observation					5+5	
(g) Speaking ability					15	
(h) Ability to compare animals					7.5+7.5	
Total					50	