



Junior College Livestock Judging Contest

American Royal Event Contact:

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This contest will be held in conjunction with the Intercollegiate Livestock Judging Contest

Monday, October 19, 8:00 a.m., Hale Arena

Entry Fee: \$225.00 per team – must accompany entry

Entry Deadline: October 1, 2026

A coaches meeting will be held at 7:00 PM, Sunday, October 18 at the American Royal, Hale Arena bleachers. This meeting will be brief and will not include dinner. Coaches who do not attend the meeting and have entered teams in the contest must notify 816-569-4043 by 5:00 p.m., October 18 of their intent to either participate or withdraw. Failure to do so will result in disqualifications from this contest and future contests. Junior and Senior colleges will judge together; oral reasons sessions will be conducted separately. The awards ceremony will be held jointly.

Rules

1. Any Junior (2-year program) college is eligible to send a team to this contest. Only one team from a college may enter the contest. "Junior College" is defined as any two type-year agriculture program (community college or vo-tech college).
2. An application for entry must be signed by the team coach and accompanied by the entry fee. In the event that more teams wish to participate than can be accommodated, entries will be accepted in the order in which applications and entry fees are received.
3. All teams must be entered on or before October 1, 2026. Entries should be completed online. The entries should include all judging team candidates that the coach expects to bring to Kansas City.
4. Final team selection will be indicated and submitted at the coaches' meeting. No substitutions will be made after the coaches' meeting, unless there is an emergency. This will be decided by the American Royal Events Team.
5. Each team will consist of five members. All five scores will be used to determine the team total.
6. No college shall be represented by more than five persons that shall constitute a team.

7. Contestants entering this contest will not be eligible to enter subsequent Junior College Livestock Judging Contests at the American Royal but may be eligible in a future year to enter the American Royal Intercollegiate Livestock Judging Contest.
8. No contestant shall wear any uniform, college colors, belt buckle, or insignia which would identify the college represented, nor shall contestant in any way signify to the judge his/her own identity.
9. No contestant will be eligible to compete in any judging contest at the American Royal if they have any sanctions or disciplinary action taken against them by the North American Livestock Show & Rodeo Managers Association, The International Association of Fairs and Expositions, 4-H, FFA, and/or breed association(s).
10. The superintendent of the contest and the management of the American Royal reserve the right to rule on any question of eligibility not covered in the preceding rules.
11. Contestants judging in the 4-H or FFA Livestock Judging Contest are not eligible to compete in this contest.
12. Eligibility of contestants:
 - a. All team members must be majoring or minoring in Agriculture.
 - b. All team members must be enrolled in the school they are representing as full-time students, carrying 12 semester hours or equivalent quarter hours.
 - c. To be eligible, a student must not have completed five (5) semesters of college credit or cannot have completed 66 semester hours of college credit or equivalent in quarter hours and cannot be enrolled in the sixth semester of college credit.
 - d. A student has a 12-month continuous eligibility from the date of their first official contest.
 - e. Each student must maintain a cumulative G.P.A. of 2.0 on a 4.0 system or equivalent.
 - f. Each livestock judging coach and their institution will be held responsible for seeing that all their respective contestants qualify under contest eligibility rules.
 - g. The specific eligibility of a contestant will be determined by the Junior College Coaches Association Constitution.
13. No team members, alternates, coaches, or individuals accompanying the team will be allowed on the American Royal Grounds prior to 7:00 a.m., October 20. Exceptions to this rule will be made for the coaches meeting and team members who are exhibitors, in which case special permission must be secured from the Event Manager, Regan Culp.
14. Twelve (12) classes of livestock will be judged. These placings classes will consist of any or all of the following: breeding cattle, market steers, breeding sheep, market lambs, breeding hogs, market hogs, breeding goats, and market goats. The number of classes per species will be determined by the contest superintendent.
15. Each class will consist of four animals to be designated by numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4.
16. Eight (8) sets of oral reasons will also be given by contestants. The number of oral reasons per species will be determined by the contest superintendent. Reasons will be given on classes that will be decided by the judges and the contest superintendent.

17. One or more classes utilizing performance data may be included in the contest. One of these may be a reasons class.
18. The final scores will be based on 50 points on each placing and 50 points on each set of reasons.
19. Contestants who fail to properly mark their placing on a card will receive a score of 0 for that class.
20. The contestant will be given 12 minutes to place each class and two (2) minutes for each set of oral reasons.
21. Contestants will be told two minutes before time is up. When final time is called the contestants must mark their placings immediately.
22. Each group of contestants will change to another class as directed by the superintendent.
23. Handling of breeding classes will not be permitted.
24. Stop watches or equivalents may be used in the reason sessions.
25. No communication devices (phones, tablets, computers, etc.) will be allowed during the contest.
26. There will be no conferring between contestants or anyone else while the contest is in progress except as directed by the superintendent or his representatives.
27. Any coach or contestant who violates any of the rules of this contest will be barred from competing in future contests and his team will be disqualified.
28. Ties will be broken by a method determined by show management and superintendent. No duplicate awards will be given. Results when announced will be official and final.
29. All contestants and coaches are directed to follow the health guidelines set forth by the American Royal Association with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the State of Missouri and the Kansas City, Missouri Health Department (KCHD). The processes and procedures are subject to change.

Contestant's Luncheon

Lunch will be provided for the contestants on Monday, during the contest.

Contestant's Awards Banquet

Awards, trophies, and prizes will be presented to the winners following the completion of the critique, Monday, October 19 at the American Royal Complex. This event is sponsored by the Belles of the American Royal (BOTAR).