

2017 Kansas 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest

Eligibility:

1. Each County Extension Council may enter one team of three or four enrolled 4-H members. Each District Extension Council may enter teams of three or four enrolled 4-H members equal to the number of counties comprising the extension district. **The three contestants with the highest scores will make up the team total for each category and overall scores.** The contestant with the lowest score is still eligible for individual awards.
2. **No alternates will be listed on a team. Up to 5 individuals from each county (who are not on already on a skillathon team) are allowed to compete in the individual skillathon competition.**
3. Members must be 9, but not yet 19, before January 1 of the current year. Contestants in National 4-H Competitive Events cannot have reached their 19th birthday as of January 1 of the current year. **If a team has one or more members who are under 14 years of age, that team will be ineligible to qualify for national competition.**
4. **Individuals who have judged as an official team member or as an alternate at the designated National 4-H Livestock Skillathon (NAILE) in Louisville, KY are not eligible to compete as a team member.** They may participate as an individual contestant but will not be eligible for awards. Their score will, however, be counted towards individual sweepstakes awards. If an individual served as an alternate at the National 4-H Contest but did not actually participate in the contest, they retain their eligibility for the state contest.
5. In keeping with National 4-H rules, contestants who have participated in **any** post-secondary (university, college, junior college or technical school) course work or training for post-secondary competition in the subject area of this contest, including academic quadrathlon-type contests, are not eligible to compete.

Contest Method of Conduct:

1. All contestants and coaches or a representative of each team competing in the Livestock Skillathon Contest will report to Weber 123 at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 19th. The Skillathon will begin on Saturday, August 19th at 4:30 p.m. for all counties and districts.
2. All contestants will begin by taking the written exam in Weber 123. Then, contestants will be divided into smaller groups to complete the individual stations. Groups will be staggered throughout the individual rounds to complete the contest as efficiently as possible. Specific details regarding format and procedure will be announced to coaches and team members immediately prior to beginning the exam on Saturday, August 19th.
3. Team Rounds will be held at the conclusion of the individual rounds. Teams will be assigned a designated time to complete their rounds in Weber Arena. This information will be posted by 12:00pm on Saturday, August 19th, with the top 8 quiz bowl teams. Teams should assemble in the SW foyer of Weber Hall (by the glass doors where check-in is held) at their designated time. Contest organizers will identify teams and invite them into the arena for team problem instructions and participation.

4. This contest will be scored using a scantron. All individuals will use a scantron to mark and submit their answers. Contestants will be required to use a #2 pencil. Clipboards are highly encouraged. During the individual competition round of the contest, contestants will be further divided into groups and will remain with that assigned group throughout the individual rounds of classes. While completing the individual competition classes, there will be no conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone else except as directed by contest officials. Contestants will be allowed approximately five (5) minutes to complete each individual competition class. Time allotted will depend on the number of contest participants and will be announced at the coaches meeting.
5. Team members will complete one official answer sheet for each team class representing the combined effort of all team members. Teams will have an appropriate amount of time (5-10 minutes) to complete the group assignments of each class and turn in their answer sheet. Time allotted will depend on the number of contest participants and will be announced at the coaches meeting. During the team competition round of the contest, contestants will be allowed to confer with team members only during time allowed for that class.
6. Possible classes-The classes below are suggested potential classes. Please refer to reference list, however, and note that actual classes may deviate from this list in an effort to keep current with a rapidly changing livestock industry. Contest organizers reserve the right to provide material and classes they feel are valid industry educational opportunities.

Individual classes:

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| a) Livestock Equipment Identification | e) Retail Meat Cut Identification |
| b) Livestock Breed Identification | f) Hay and Wool Judging Class |
| c) Quality Assurance Exercise | g) Written Exam |
| d) Feed Stuffs Identification | |

Team classes (see statement above):

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| a) Quality Assurance Exercise | b) Meat & Carcass Evaluation |
| c) Animal Breeding Scenario and Exercise | d) Livestock Feeding/Feed Label Knowledge |
| e) Evaluation of Performance & Marketing Knowledge | |

7. No contestant shall wear any clothing, pins, or badges that will in any way reveal their identity or the county/district which they represent. No hats are to be worn.
8. Conferring among contestants (talking, gestures, etc.) will result in immediate dismissal from the contest.
9. Contestants may not carry any electronic communication device (cell phones, etc.). Any contestant found in possession of such a device at any time during the contest will be immediately removed from competition.
10. Contestants may use a steno pad or a clipboard and blank paper. Contestant may also use a small pocket calculator. No programmable calculators are allowed. The contestants may bring no books, notes, pamphlets, or other reference material into the contest area.
11. Contestants are not to pick up or touch any item that is being identified or evaluated in the individual competition classes.
12. Coaches are invited to review contest materials in the contest area at the conclusion of the contest.

Awards

The contest will recognize the top five teams and top ten individuals, as well as appropriate categorical awards. The highest ranking team will qualify for the National 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest at Louisville, KY. Eligible senior teams must meet age and all other qualifications established by the national contest.