

CATA Curricular Code Change Proposal

Submission Instructions, please read in full before submitting your proposal:

1. Fill in all the below information.
2. Download the current code from the CATA Website: [Curricular Activities Code](#)
 1. Do not delete anything from the code. Strikethrough parts to delete. Any new wording, type into the code and highlight in yellow.
 2. Upload "Proposed Code" below.
 3. Upload any additional documents if needed
 4. Scroll all the way to the bottom and sign the form.
3. **IMPORTANT - Answering "Yes" to any of the questions requires the Host Site's Contest Coordinator's signature.**
 1. After all information is filled out, codes are updated and you have signed the form, hit "Save" on the bottom right-hand corner. **DO NOT** hit "SUBMIT".
 2. Once you hit "Save" a box will appear with a link. This link is specific to your proposal. You can email the link to yourself and also copy from this box.
 3. Email this link to the Host Site coordinator to review your proposal. When emailing the Host Site, request that they review your proposal and sign in the "Host Site Coordinator's" Signature box. Request that they hit "Save" after signing the document and let you know that the signature is complete.
 4. Using the link, pull up your proposal and confirm that the signatures are complete and hit "Submit". Once you hit "Submit", you will no longer be able to make any changes to your submission.

Name of Contest:

Livestock Judging

Curricular Codes Open - List A

Livestock Judging

Out of Rotation Curricular Codes

Revive a Contest: Please enter the name of the contest below and contact the CATA office for a copy of the Code.

Proposed by:

Amber Layne

School:

Liberty High School

Email:

amberlayne@gvusd.org

Issue:

The proposed changes to the California FFA Livestock Judging Contest are intended to strengthen the integrity, consistency, fairness, and professionalism of the event. As participation and competitive standards continue to grow, it is essential that contest procedures reflect best practices used in high-quality judging events across the nation.

Preassigning contestant numbers and groups ensures uniformity in scoring and eliminates opportunities for bias or competitive advantages that may arise from inconsistent rotations or identification procedures. Requiring the use of standardized JudgingCard scan sheets for all classes, including reasons, improves

scoring efficiency, accuracy, and contest management.

The restriction preventing immediate family members or assistant coaches of contestants from participating in contest operations is designed to eliminate conflicts of interest and maintain public trust in the contest process. This policy helps preserve transparency and ensures all participants compete under equal conditions.

Additionally, requiring group leaders to verify and highlight scantrons after each class establishes a clear chain of custody for contestant materials, reducing opportunities for cheating, accidental errors, or unauthorized changes. Collectively, these updates promote accountability, fairness, and credibility while protecting the reputation of the California FFA Livestock Judging Contest.

This proposal will require a contest to open out of rotation: (Please note: It is highly recommended that you, or a representative, attend the pre-conference governing board meeting to answer any questions regarding proposed curricular code changes to contests that are requested to be opened out of rotation.)

No

The change will affect General Rules:

No

The change will affect the awards needed:

No

The proposed change will affect contest forms:

No

The proposed change will affect contest hosting site (e.g. additional facilities, new sections, additional scoring, etc.)

No

If you answered YES to any of the above questions, please explain:

The contest host will need to provide group leaders with highlighters.

Which JudgingCard scorecard will be used for tabulations?

476-4

Is this a New Contest Proposal?

No

If you answered YES to this being a New Contest Proposal, please indicate who will be sponsoring the contest. New Contest Proposals require a 3-year sponsor.

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, you need to include the following signature:

Host Site Contest Coordinator's Name:

Morgan Wonderly

CDE Host Site Contest Coordinator's Signature (agreeing that changes are able to be accommodated by the host site.)

Morgan Wonderly

Upload code with tracked changes:

29_A07 (2).docx

Livestock Judging Contest Changes 1.pdf

Livestock Judging Contest Changes.docx

Upload any additional information you would like:

Please sign below:

Amber Layne

LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Revised 6/2025

Purpose and Standards

- To understand and to interpret the value of performance data based on industry standards.
- To measure the students' knowledge in the following categories:
 - to make accurate observations of livestock
 - to determine the desirable traits in animals
 - to make logical decisions based on these observations
 - to discuss and to defend their decisions for their placing
 - to instill an appreciation for desirable selection, management and marketing techniques
- To develop the ability to select and market livestock that will satisfy consumer demands and provide increased economic returns to producers. Provide positive economic returns to producers as well as meet the needs of the industry.
- To become proficient in communicating in the terminology of the industry and the consumer.
- To provide an opportunity for participants to become acquainted

Foundation Standards: 2.4, 2.7, 5.0, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 9.0, 9.1

Agricultural Pathway Standards: D 5.1, D10

Contestants

Teams consist of four members, with all four individual scores counting as the team score. All team members are eligible for individual awards.

Classes

Class	Individual Points	Team Points
Beef 1	50	200
Beef 2	50	200
Beef 3	50	200
Sheep 1	50	200
Sheep 2	50	200
Sheep 3	50	200
Meat Goats 1	50	200
Swine 1	50	200
Swine 2	50	200
Swine 3	50	200
Keep/Cull	50	200
Beef or Beef Performance Reasons	50	200
Sheep Reasons	50	200
Swine or Swine Performance Reasons	50	200
Goat Reasons	50	200
TOTAL	750	3000

Tie Breaker

1. The team or individual scoring the highest total reason score(s) will be the winner.
2. If a tie still exists, the total score of the individual or team will be used to determine the high individual or team.

Sub-contest Awards

Sub-contest awards will be given for high teams and individuals in the following areas: Beef, Goats, Sheep, Swine, and Reasons. (Beef, Goats, Sheep and Swine include Keep/Cull, and Reasons if applicable to that species. Reasons sub contest **includes** all reason scores.)

Rules

- I. All contestants shall be allowed 12 minutes for placing each class. Two minutes will be allowed for each set of reasons.
- II. There will be ten (10) classes judged consisting of three classes each of the following: beef cattle, sheep and swine. The tenth class judged will be meat goats, either breeding or market animals.
- III. ~~One~~ **Two** judging class will be based on EPD performance data. Each year the class will be rotated from beef to swine, with beef on odd years and swine on even years. The following data will be used for the EPD class:
 - A. Swine: EPD's or live animal data (derived from the Stages program) representing litter size, backfat, line eye area, and days to 250#. A management statement will include only the intent of progeny and what females will be mated with.
 - B. Cattle: birth date, EPD's, and accuracy percentages for Birth Weight (BW), Calving Ease (CE), Weaning Weight (WW), Yearling Weight (YW) Milk (MILK), Total Maternal (TM), Scrotal Circumference (SC), Fat Thickness (FT), Rib Eye Area (REA), and Marbling (MARB).
 - C. A management statement will include only the intent of progeny and what bulls or females will be mated with.
- ~~IV. In addition, there will be one keep/cull class made up of eight (8) animals. The contest organizer will designate the species to be used. The top four animals used in the keep and cull class will total 50 points. Any of the remaining animals may receive points. In addition, one performance class will have 10 questions created by the contest officials. Questions will be based on performance data and the overall appearance of the class.~~
 - ~~A. Before the start of the oral reasons. Contestants will be given 10 minutes to review their notes on the performance questions class. At the conclusion of the 10 minutes, the contest host will appoint a team member to read off the questions for the group of contestants. Once questions are complete group leaders will collect scantrons for each contestant.~~
- V. Oral reasons will be given on four of the ten classes of livestock, one in each species with one being either swine or beef performance. One of the four reasons classes will be based on the performance data class. A minimum of three different judges will listen to and score reasons for each class on which reasons are given.
- VI. All contestants will be graded as follows:
 - A. Correct placings will be fifty points each.
 - B. Reasons will be on a basis of 50 points per presentation.
 - C. Keep/Cull will have a maximum point value of 50 points each.
- VII. The host university and contest coordinator will release the following information through an email by 6 p.m. the Friday before State Finals:
 - A. Names and types of classes to be judged, including reasons classes. * Subject to change.
 - B. Special instructions (i.e. injured animals, judging site conditions, last-minute changes, requests for special needs, etc.)

- C. Additionally, contestant numbers and assigned groups shall be preassigned prior to the contest and maintained throughout the duration of the event to ensure consistency in scoring procedures and to prevent any potential competitive advantage or unfair scoring discrepancies.
- VIII. The contestants will use the JudgingCard scan sheet, for all livestock judging classes, including reasons.
- IX. To preserve the integrity, fairness, and transparency of the California Livestock Judging Contest, any immediate family member or assistant coach affiliated with a participating team or individual shall not participate in contest operations, administration, scoring, tabulation, or any other official contest capacity. This policy is intended to eliminate potential conflicts of interest and maintain public confidence in the contest process.
 - X. Group leaders will verify and highlight scantrons after each class is completed to ensure accountability, maintain chain-of-custody procedures, and minimize the opportunity for cheating or unauthorized alterations during the contest.
- The contest will be administered, planned, organized, and facilitated by a committee of California college and university livestock educators and professionals selected by the current State FFA Advisor at his discretion.