



2025 District 11 Judging Contests Information and Guidelines

AGE CLASSIFICATIONS

Please make sure all participants are entered in the correct age division. Descriptions of age divisions are:

- Senior Division – Contestants must be in the 9th through 12th grade as of August 31, 2024.
- Intermediate Division – Contestants must be in the 6th through 8th grade as of August 31, 2024.
- Junior Division – Contestants must be in the 3rd through 5th grade as of August 31, 2024.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

- Requests for accommodation must be submitted to the District Office from the County Office at least 2 weeks prior to the event.
- This request must be accompanied by official documentation in one of the following options for why the request is being submitted:
 - A) Official doctor's note from a licensed medical professional
 - B) School documentation and/or evaluation from a public institution
 - C) Official evaluation from a licensed professional therapist and/or diagnostician
- Note: The documentation and requests are required within the appropriate timeline outline for the event for the accommodation to be considered but does not guarantee that the requested accommodation can be made.
- The request will be reviewed by the district office (and when necessary, in consultation with the state office).
- Request and documentation will be kept confidential within the appropriate county/district staff and event administrators.

ELIGIBILITY

There is **NO** limit on the number of teams per age division from each county that may participate in each judging contest. If a county does not have a team entering a contest, the county may send one or two individual contestants for that age division. If a county has three individuals wishing to compete at the District level, they must be declared a team entry.

According to the Texas Education Code, a 4-H member must be deemed “eligible” to compete in an event that takes place on a Saturday.

All 4-H youth, including youth in public, private, and/or home school must adhere to the following guidelines regarding extracurricular activities and academic eligibility.

- Complete an “Academic Status Form”

If a 4-H member is ineligible for a 4-H competitive event, the agent must notify the 4-H member, his/her parents, and the district office, by letter, of this situation. If a parent has any questions, he/she should be referred to the school administrator.

CONTEST REGISTRATION

Participants will be **REQUIRED** to register for ALL judging contests on 4-H ONLINE. 4-H members may submit an entry at any time during the registration period.

- **Livestock Judging and Meats ID:** - The registration will be open from 12:00 a.m. on February 21 through 12:00 midnight on March 28. Late registration is allowed March 29 through April 4th for an additional \$25. Register under “**2025 District 11 Livestock & Meats Judging Contests**” event.
- **Horse Judging** – Registration will be from February 21 – March 28, 2025. Late Registration will be from March 29 – April 4, 2025, for an additional \$25 per individual. Register under “**2025 District 11 Horse Judging**” event.
- Teams will not be designated on 4-Honline. All participants will sign up as individuals for their contest. Team designations will be made at registration on the day of the contest. Anyone that may POTENTIALLY participate should register by the announced deadline.

It is important to be aware that registration will close at midnight on the given date. Late entries may be accepted with an increased entry fee.

All entries on 4-H online must be certified by the respective county Extension agent within two working days after the deadline. Failure to do so may result in the entry being rejected.

ENTRY FEE

An entry fee of \$20.00 per INDIVIDUAL will be charged for all judging contests. Late entries will be assessed as an additional fee of \$25.00 for a total of \$45.00 entry fee.

No refunds will be given for any reason.

JUDGING CONTESTS RULES & GUIDELINES

Oral Reasons -- Participants will be required to cover their name and/or county name on shirts, jackets, etc. while giving oral reasons.

- Livestock Judging –
 - Intermediates – 2 sets (1 market steer, 1 market sheep) **will evaluate this as we get closer to contest date.
 - Seniors – 4 sets (2 cattle, 1 sheep, 1 swine)
- Horse Judging –
 - Intermediates will give one Halter class.
 - Seniors will give one halter and one Performance class.
- Meat Judging –
 - Seniors will be required to give three (3) sets of oral reasons: One in each of the following retail cuts, beef, and pork (a lamb set may replace one of these)

Thank You Notes

- Participants may be asked to write thank you notes to sponsors of the judging contests.

TEAM COMPOSITE

A judging team is made up of three (3) to four (4) members. All team members must be enrolled in 4-H and actively participate as a 4-H member. 4-H members that do not consist of a full team and are judging as individuals at District ARE allowed to qualify for advancement to Texas 4-H Roundup if they are one of the top three senior individuals at District.

SUBSTITUTIONS

FOR DISTRICT:

Substitutions WILL NOT be allowed at the District level. All potential participants should be signed up on 4-H online by the appropriate deadline. Team designation will not be required when registering on 4-H online. Team designation will be made at registration on the date of the contest.

FOR STATE

Only the 4-H members and the number of 4-H members who qualify at District qualify for State. Substitutions should be used only as a means of keeping a team active when members have been forced to drop out for unexpected reasons (i.e. major illness, death). Substituting for the purpose of having one or more team members compete in another contest is not an unexpected reason and is unacceptable.

All substitutions must be approved through the District Office.

Substitutions may be made as follows:

A team of 2 or 3 members: 1 member may be substituted.

Team of 4 or 5 members: 2 members may be substituted.

STATE QUALIFIERS (SENIORS ONLY)

Senior 4-H members are the only age division eligible to qualify for the Texas 4-H Roundup. To be eligible for State participation, 4-H'ers must participate in the District competition. The teams AND individuals that place first, second and third at District will be eligible to compete at Texas 4-H Roundup in June.

TEAM AND HIGH POINT INDIVIDUALS

The three high scoring individuals in the District contest may participate in the State contest, as individuals, if (and only if) their team does not advance to Texas 4-H Roundup. To further clarify, if the three high point individuals at the district contest are members of the first, second, or third place teams, no individual entries will be accepted from the district. A 4-H member can only advance as an individual if the team does not!

PRIOR COMPETITION

SENIORS ONLY

Seniors can now come back and compete in a contest, in which they have won 1st place in. The one exception applies to individuals who participate in Texas 4-H Roundup and then go on to compete in the following contest are ineligible to compete at both State 4-H Roundup and any National 4-H Contest associated with that specific contest. (See Texas 4-H Roundup Guide for complete details)