

Official Kansas 4-H Sheep Showmanship Score Card



A. APPEARANCE OF LAMB

PERFECT SCORE 20

1. **Cleanliness** 10
 - a. Wool clean and free of foreign matter.
 - b. Flanks, face, nose, ears, feet and legs clean.
 - c. Wool should be dry on breeding ewes.

2. **Trimming** 10
 - a. It is desirable that fleece be slick shorn on market lambs, but the final decision is left to the individual show management.
 - b. Fleece on registered breeding ewes trimmed to an appropriate length for the breed being exhibited.
 - c. The back, sides, and legs of breeding sheep may be trimmed to emphasize merits of that breed, depending on individual breed characteristics.
 - d. Wether dam ewes should be slick shorn.
 - e. Feet should be trimmed so that lamb walks and stands natural and correct.

B. SHOWING

PERFECT SCORE 55

1. **Posing and Changing Positions** 35
 - a. Lamb should be kept well posed at all times, but showman should not engage in undue fussing or maneuvering.
 - b. Lamb should show evidence of training as indicated by responsiveness to handling.
 - c. Lamb should be shown from the front, slightly off to the lamb's left side when the judge is viewing it from the rear. It is the responsibility of the judge to get in position to see the animal.
 - d. Exhibitor should step to the lamb's left side facing the judge while holding the head up when the judge indicates by word or action the wish to inspect the front end of the lamb.
 - e. Exhibitor may stand or be in a half-kneeling position, except when moving lamb to a new position.
 - f. Lamb should only be led from the left side with left hand under the jaw, and the right hand behind the head to maintain control. One hand on each side of the face is also acceptable. The judge, under no condition, is to ask an exhibitor to move a lamb from the lamb's right side. It is the judge's responsibility to be in the correct position to have a desired view of the lamb. Switching from the left side to the right side while a lamb is in motion may be interesting to watch, but it slows the show. These guidelines are designed for an exhibitor to be able to show a lamb in the most practical method.
 - g. Each exhibitor should maintain proper distance when on the move and when standing to allow other exhibitors to be able to efficiently show their animal. Exhibitor should be courteous to other exhibitors and their lambs at all times.
 - h. When a lamb is not visible to the judge in a particularly large class, it is permissible to let the lamb relax in position.
 - i. Exhibitor is expected to brace the lamb when the judge handles it. Lifting a lamb is acceptable to set the lamb's feet, but the front feet **must** be on the ground when the judge is handling or closely inspecting the lamb.

2. **Cooperation with Judge** 20

- a. Be aware of where the judge is, and maintain that awareness.
- b. The exhibitor must stay in position to effectively and efficiently show and move the lamb. It is the exhibitor's responsibility not to obstruct the judge's view when the judge asks for a front view.
- c. A judge often places lambs from the side view or head to tail position. As open spaces occur, exhibitor should move forward in line without waiting for the ringmaster's or judge's command to do so.
- c. Lambs should be maneuvered into position as requested by the judge, smoothly without a lot of excess movement.

C. APPEARANCE AND MERITS OF EXHIBITOR

PERFECT SCORE 25

1. Appearance 10

- a. Exhibitor should be well groomed and clothes clean and neat.
- b. Extremes in color and fit not appropriate. Full length jeans in subdued, solid colors are appropriate.
- c. Official shirt provided by show management as well as any shirt of subdued, solid colors are appropriate.
- d. Suggested that no headgear be worn in class; however, a cap is acceptable when conditions warrant.

2. Merits 15

- a. Brings lamb into ring promptly.
- b. Responsive to judge's and ringmaster's requests.
- c. Works quickly but not abruptly.
- d. Recognizes and corrects faults of lamb quickly.
- e. Not distracted by persons and things outside of show ring. Exhibitor should not look to outside help for help in setting lamb correctly.
- f. Shows animal, not self.
- g. Does not leave ring until released by ring official.
- h. Displays a courteous and sportsmanlike attitude.
- i. Prepared to give answers about their lamb and to answer questions related to the 4-H sheep project.
- j. Upon instructions of the ringmaster or judge to move the lamb to a new position, priority is to get that position and set up the lamb.
- k. Beginning exhibitor may use a halter, if that is what it takes to maintain control of the lamb. If a halter is required, the lead rope should be very short.

D. FOLLOWING ARE SEVERELY DISCRIMINATED AGAINST AND MAY BE GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION.

- a. Artificial coloring above the knee unless approved by show management.
- b. Lifting of front feet off the ground when bracing.
- c. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
- d. Lifting the front of lamb with a hand under the jaw causing a choking effect.
- e. Hitting or slapping a lamb to make it brace.