

Memorandum

TO: District 7 County Extension Agents
AG, 4-H

SUBJECT: 2025 Meats Judging Contest

EVENT DATE: Wednesday, April 16th, 2025

LOCATION: Angelo State University Meats Lab
7945 Grape Creek Rd.
San Angelo, Texas

FEE: \$18 per contestant entry fee (Includes lunch)
\$8 leaders/volunteers' lunch

*Any entries made after the closing date of 4-H Online will incur a \$50 late fee in addition to the original contest fee.
(Pending late entry is approved based on timeline needed for contest preparation)*

No Refunds

ENTRY DEADLINE:

- 4-H Online (Opens March 17th – March 31st)
- County Entry Form – **Due March 31st**

Please find the Guidelines, Rules, and Regulations for this event on the following pages. Please contact the District 7 Office if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Garry Branham
District Specialist – 4-H & Youth Development

Missy Olofsson
4-H Program Assistant

Taylor Osbourn
Contest Superintendent



4-H and Youth Development
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
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DISTRICT 7 MEATS JUDGING CONTEST GUIDELINES, RULES, AND REGULATIONS

AGE DIVISIONS

The following contestant ages are as of **August 31, 2024**:

- JUNIOR – minimum age 8 and in the 3rd grade- 5th grade
- INTERMEDIATE – grades 6th- 8th
- SENIOR –grades 9th- 12th (Maximum age- 18 as of August 31, 2024)

ENTRIES

4-H'ers will need to register on 4-H Online for this contest. County Extension agents will then need to compile all entries from the county and submit the attached entry form to the District Office so we will know the make-up of teams. Any number of teams may enter the contest, the top three (3) senior teams will advance to State Roundup. Therefore, all members of each team must be decided upon before the contest and maintained throughout the contest.

There will be NO REFUNDS for teams/individuals that don't show up to the contest. If you miss the registration deadline you will be required to pay the late registration fee.

Teams will consist of three (3) or four (4) members. The scores of the three (3) highest scoring team members will count as the team's score with the low scoring member automatically becoming the alternate. Alternates and individual scores can be counted for individual awards.

Contestants shall not have previously competed in an intercollegiate meat judging contest or the National 4-H Meat Judging Contest.

***NEW policy for accommodation requests for events:**

- **Requests for accommodations 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 request are required within the appropriate timeline outlined for the event in order 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.**

SCHEDULE

- 9:00 AM Registration
- 10:00 AM Contest Begins

CONTEST GUIDELINES – All efforts will be made to mimic the State Contest guidelines, but the contest will be based on the availability of products and at the discretion of the contest officials.

JUNIOR - Juniors will only judge 6 classes only.

INTERMEDIATE - Judge 6 classes, retail ID with cookery, questions on two classes

SENIOR - Judge 6 classes, retail ID with cookery, reasons (3 sets)

GENERAL CONDUCT OF CONTEST

- Judging is performed in cold temperatures potentially equaling 32° F; therefore, the participants should dress appropriately. Frocks and cooler coats, if desired, must be provided by the contestant.

A clean hard hat and a hair net must be worn during the judging portion of the contest and is mandatory in order for a judging team member to be able to compete.

- The following supplies should be brought by the contestant:
 - Clipboards
 - Pencils
 - Suitable headcover
 - Frocks and cooler coats, if desired
- The following supplies will be provided for the contestant:
 - Scantrons
 - Retail ID Card
- Contestants will move from class to class during the contest in four or more separate groups.
- Where possible, a group leader will be provided for each group of contestants whose duty shall be to enforce the rules of the contest and to keep the exhibits of the class, on which his/her group is working, in an orderly arrangement.
- Contestants will not be permitted to:
 - Handle any carcass roughly;
 - Touch the lean cut surface of any exhibit;
 - Handle or touch any wholesale or retail cuts under any condition;
 - Use any mechanical aid, such as a measuring device, light, etc.
 - Talk to fellow contestants at any time during the contest;
 - Monopolize any one exhibit for any unreasonable length of time;
 - Separate themselves from the class on which their group is working;
 - In any way willfully obstruct the work of any other contestant.

AWARDS

To be determined by contest officials