



# **Middle Tennessee Livestock Evaluation**

## Purpose

*The livestock evaluation career development event provides the opportunity to learn and apply livestock industry and production priorities through evaluation and selection of beef cattle, swine, sheep and meat goats.*

## Objectives

Participants in the National FFA Livestock Evaluation Career Development Event will be able to

- Make accurate observations of livestock.
- Determine the desirable traits in market and breeding livestock.
- Make logical decisions based on these observations.
- Discuss and defend their decisions for their placings.
- Understand desirable selection, production, management and marketing techniques for livestock.
- Understand and interpret the value of performance data based on industry standards.
- Select and market livestock that will satisfy consumer demands and provide increased economic returns to producers while meeting the needs of the industry.
- Proficiently communicate using the terminology of the industry and the consumer.
- Associate with professionals in the industry.
- Utilize current technology as it relates to the livestock industry.
- Develop employability skills for future agricultural career choices.

## Event Rules

The complete rules, policies and procedures relevant to all National FFA Career and Leadership Development Events may be found in the [Guide to CDE and LDE Policies and Procedures](#).

- Each team will have four members. All four scores will be used to determine the total team score.
- The top four teams from each region will compete at state.
- Official FFA dress is not required
- Any participant in possession of an electronic device in the event area is subject to disqualification.

**Junior Divison:** 6th-8th grade paid FFA members. Students will not give oral reasons. If you did not pay regional dues last year, please bring \$1 per scantron. This is only a regional event for this division. The winning team will be recognized at the regional banquet.

**Senior Divison:** 9th-12th grade paid FFA members. The top 4 teams will qualify for the state contest and the top 2 teams will be recognized at the regional banquet.

# Event Format

## EQUIPMENT

Materials students must provide:

- Two No. 2 pencils.
- Clean clipboard.

Equipment provided by national FFA:

- Paper for notes taken during classes.

## INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES (200 POINTS)

### *Keep Cull (50 points each with 150 points total)*

Keep/cull classes: This will be paper-based only. This may be beef, swine, sheep, or meat goats. Participants will be provided a scenario and performance data and will be required to select the four best animals from the eight using performance data. Performance criteria, when used, shall be based on current industry standards.

### *Livestock evaluation/placing classes (50 points/class, 450 points total)*

Eight classes of four animals each will be placed. Classes may be breeding or market animals from beef, swine, sheep, or meat goat species. At least one class will include the use of production/performance data.

### *Oral reasons (50 points/class, 150 points total)*

Three sets of oral reasons will be designated by the event superintendent at the beginning of the event. Reasons will be given after all classes have been placed. Participants will be provided paper to take notes on each reason class for preparation. Use of notes during the reason presentation is strongly discouraged and students will be penalized for reading from their notes.

## Scoring

All team member scores will be used to determine final team placing.

Activity	Individual Points	Team Points
Classes – 8 at 50 points each	400	1600
Reasons – 3 at 50 points each	150	600
Keep/cull – 1 at 50 points	50	200
<b>MAXIMUM POSSIBLE POINTS</b>	600	2400

### TIEBREAKERS

If ties occur, the following events, in order, will be used to determine individual and team outcomes:

1. Total of oral reasons.
2. Total of placing classes.
3. Total of keep/cull classes.

## References

*This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive. Other sources may be utilized, and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.*

- National FFA CDE Question and answers, [FFA.org](http://FFA.org) past class listings, performance data and scenarios
- Beef Improvement Federation, [www.beefimprovement.org](http://www.beefimprovement.org) - resource center
- National Swine Registry, <http://www.nationalswine.com/>
- Certified Pedigreed Swine, <http://cpsswine.com/>
- National Pork Board, <http://www.pork.org/>
- Gillispie, James R. Modern Livestock and Poultry Production. (most current edition.) Albany, NY: Delmar Publishers, Inc. 2015.
- Instructional Material Services, [tamu instructional materials](http://tamu.instructionalmaterials.com)
- Goat Handbook, <http://www.texasgoat.com>
- [www.thejudgingconnection.com](http://www.thejudgingconnection.com)
- [www.judging101.com](http://www.judging101.com)
- [www.livestockjudging.com](http://www.livestockjudging.com)
- Cyber livestock judging, <https://extension.usu.edu/cyberlivestock/judging/index>
- Evaluating meat goats, <https://www.four-h.purdue.edu/downloads/cde/meat%20goat%20selection2.pdf>
- <http://judgingpro.com/>
- Rayfield, John S., Smith, Kasee L., Park, Travis and Croom, D. Barry. Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources. (most current edition.) Tinley Park, IL; Goodheart-Willcox Publisher, 2015.

## Animal Science Related Careers

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| • Agricultural lender              | • Geneticist                            |
| • Agricultural policy professional | • Herdsman                              |
| • Agriculture teacher              | • Livestock auctioneer                  |
| • Animal science technician        | • Livestock buyer                       |
| • Attorney                         | • Livestock judging coach               |
| • Breed representative             | • Nutritionist                          |
| • Collegiate educator              | • Producer                              |
| • Commodity broker                 | • Researcher                            |
| • Commodity professional           | • Sales and/or marketing representative |
| • Consultant                       | • Transportation logistics              |
| • Extension agent                  | • Veterinarian                          |
| • Farm/ranch manager               |   |