I would like to welcome everyone to the 2023 HCC Winter Classic Livestock Judging Contest. With the Kansas State Fairgrounds making renovations (again) to the horse arenas on the southeast side of the grounds where we typically host our contests, we will not have access to any buildings at the state fairgrounds during the 2023 Kansas Beef Expo. Therefore, we will host the “Winter Classic” at the Bar K Bar arena and Celebration Centre in Lyons, KS like we did in December of 2021. We at Hutchinson Community College have remained committed to providing a great learning experience for your students to aid in their preparation for spring judging events and we are proud to serve as your contest host again this year. HCC will also plan to be hosting the Blue Dragon Classic contest on Monday, April 8th, 2024 at the Bar K Bar arena and Celebration Centre in Lyons, KS. Please keep this date in mind as you begin to look ahead to possible spring events to attend. Below you will find usual details with changes/updates for the 2023 contest.

**Contest Date:** Friday, December 8th, 2023, 9:30 a.m. start time.

**Contest Location:** Bar K Bar Arena & Celebration Centre: 1145 E. US-56 Hwy Lyons, KS 67554

Students will judge inside, but please dress appropriately for December weather.

**Registration:** 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Please enter via the Google forms link on or before December 4th at 5 pm Central Time.

**Entry Fee:** $10 per Non-Reasons contestant, $15 per Reasons contestant  
*(Cash or Check only. Checks made out to HCC Livestock Judging Team)*

**Classes:** You can expect a total of 8-10 classes. Any combination of breeding and market cattle, swine, sheep, and/or goats can be expected, depending on livestock availability. Expected progeny differences (EPD’s) may also be used on breeding classes.
Divisions: Please identify on the entry form which division your students will be competing in. The senior division is for the 10-12th graders, intermediate 7-9th grade and junior is 6th grade and under. Within each age groups, students/teams can participate in reasons or the placings only division, but may not “double enter” in a division. Please note: even if you have “Greenhand” students that are older than freshmen in high school, they will need to be entered in the appropriate division in accordance with our rules.

**You must fill out a separate form within the link for each division!!!**

A. Senior Division (10th-12th Grades) – Reasons  
B. Senior Division (10th-12th Grades) – Non-Reasons  
C. Intermediate Division (7th-9th Grades) – Reasons  
D. Intermediate Division (7th-9th Grades) – Non-Reasons  
E. Junior Division (6th Grade and younger) – Reasons  
F. Junior Division (6th Grade and younger) – Non-Reasons

**Reasons:** Reasons are anticipated to begin at 11:45 a.m. and conclude by 1:30 p.m. Lunch will not be provided but snacks and water will be available for reasons contestants. **Individuals/teams competing in the Junior and Intermediate reasons category will give 2 sets of reasons. Seniors will give 3 sets.**

**Critique:** An official description of the classes with placings and cuts will be provided immediately after the conclusion of reasons.

**Results:** Due to unknown number of participants, a Facebook live will be done to announce results approximately 2-3 hours after the completion of judging. If you wish to stay to collect your awards and receive recognition that is acceptable, but please realize for the Non-reasons contest, it takes a while to finish tabulation as there is a large number of contestants and we do not use Scantrons. Any awards that your school and/or students win will be coordinated on how to receive. It is the responsibility of the contestant/team to arrange for this.

**Coaches and Advisors:** We will need coaches/advisors to serve as group leaders. Group leaders will be given a large manila envelope for contestants to drop cards in and that envelope will be collected by a contest representative at the conclusion of each class rotation to be taken to the scoring room. We will try to keep as many classes around after the contest for you and your students to re-visit if necessary; however, please realize many people have graciously let us borrow their livestock and may have a long distance to travel back home.

**Expectations:** We expect there to be no talking amongst contestants during any portion of the contest, and no contestants are permitted to be on an electronic device of any kind. All contestants will receive one warning before being broken into groups on contest morning. Any contestants caught talking to anyone other than if asking their group leader a question, or on an electronic device will have their cards pulled and will be removed from the contest. Reasons contestants will not be permitted to talk to their teammates or other contestants at any point until after reasons are finished. If any contestant is caught
talking during reasons or is on an electronic device, they will be removed from the contest. It is the responsibility of the coaches/advisors to relay the seriousness of the no-talking and no-electronics rules. There will be no wiggle room or gray area on this. Contestants will be removed from the contest if they are talking or on an electronic device; no questions asked.

We are looking forward to making this year’s event a successful one. Please feel free to contact me with questions concerning the contest.

Sincerely,

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