

AJCA TEAM FITTING COMPETITION GUIDELINES

The objective of the contest is to gain the ability to work with a team to enhance the show ring performance of the groomed animal. Each winning team member will receive an award.

1. Each team will consist of four individuals. Participants may or may not be members of AJCA. **One team member must be from each age division: ages 9 to 12; ages 13 to 14; and ages 15 to 20 (use contestant's age as of October 1, 2016). The additional team member may be from any of the three age divisions.**
2. **The deadline to register your team is April 15, 2018.** Email the registration form to AJCA State Director at arkansasjrcattlemen@gmail.com or take a photo and text to 479.936.1685.
3. Each team will be responsible for bringing in a heifer, bull or steer to use in the competition. **Bulls, heifers and steers are not to be groomed; but, should be washed and dried.** Animals will be checked before entering the competition area.
4. Each team must provide their own fitting equipment. Once the contest begins, no team member may leave the area and no additional equipment may be brought into the fitting area.
5. Once the fitting area is designated for each team by the contest officials, the team may set up their grooming chute and supplies in their designated area. These items should be in place at least 5 minutes prior to the announced starting time of the contest.
6. Each team will be allowed **30** minutes to fit their animal.
7. Each team member must fit a leg, use the clippers and blower.
8. All fitting and grooming techniques must be within the accepted practices for Arkansas State Fair Spring Livestock Show.
9. No outside assistance will be allowed.
10. Judges will circulate and question participants during the 30 minutes, and while the animal is in the chute. Once the animal has been groomed and time is called participants must stand at the front of the chute until released.
11. A team designated member will present the animal for final judging.
12. Points will be awarded as follows:
 - *Ability to fit - 25 points*
 - *Organization of supplies & equipment - 5 points*
 - *Participation of each team member - 10 points*
 - *Overall effect - 5 points*
 - *Knowledge & Response to Questions - 5 points*
13. Judging will be by a three-member panel of judges based on 50 points maximum from each judge. Each judge shall total their score and rank the contestants in numerical order on the basis of their score. (Highest score first, lowest score last.)
14. Animals may be watered, but no feed or hay will be allowed in the fitting contest area.
15. The rankings (not the score) of the three judges shall be added for each team, and the final placings determined by the lowest composite rankings. Actual scores will be used only to break ties. In the event the participants are still tied, they shall be named co-winners and two awards will be given for that placing and none given for the following placing.

Team Fitting Competition

Team # _____

Circle the points that indicate your evaluation of this entry. Larger numbers are superior, i.e. in the Ability to Fit section, a 25 would be a perfect score and a 1 would be the lowest score possible. Please note observations that may be helpful to states in preparing for next year's contest.

1. Ability to Fit 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

Did the team fit the animal in a manner to accentuate the animal's positive attributes?

Did each team member appear to have knowledge of the fitting plan for the animal?

Did the team make effective use of the equipment available?

When presented for final inspection was the animal presented in a neat and natural state?

What is your general impression of the team's ability to fit the animal?

Comments:

2. Organization of Supplies and Equipment 1 2 3 4 5

Did the team have their equipment in a clean and easy to use set-up to start the contest?

Were their fitting supplies organized in a mannerly fashion?

Did the team maintain a clean, clear and safe fitting area throughout the contest?

Comments:

3. Participation of each Team Member 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Are all members equally involved in the preparation?

Is there a fluid transition from one team member to the next in the fitting process?

Do all team members take responsibility with the animal?

Do members of the team respond to each other?

Comments:

4. Overall Effectiveness 1 2 3 4 5

Does the team convey confidence and poise?

Do they have a good personal appearance?

Did the team work together well?

Comments:

5. Knowledge and Response to Questions 1 2 3 4 5

Are the team members able to answer the questions the judges ask?

Do the responses indicate knowledge and familiarity with the subject?

Are all members of the team answering questions?

Do the answers to the questions allow you to understand why they fit the animal in the manner they did?

Comments:

Total Points: _____

Ranking: _____

Judge: _____