

# Dairy Cattle Handlers CDE

## Purpose

The purpose of the FFA Dairy Cattle Handlers Activity is to recognize the skill of the handlers in presenting each animal to its best advantage in the evaluation of the dairy cows and heifers.

## Eligibility

This event is held during the Delaware State Fair. It is open to all high school FFA chapters and FFA members in good standing. Members that have participated in a previous national event or previous state winning teams in this area are ineligible.

A middle school division is also available, but no more than 2 participants from each chapter may participate.

## Event Procedures

- A. Participants must wear proper dairy cattle show clothing. A white shirt and pants, work boots along with an FFA tie or scarf. **NO SNEAKERS!**
- B. Each participant must supply their own show harness in order to compete. The event chairperson will provide numbers.
- C. The Chairperson will provide cattle with show halters.
- D. Each chapter shall be eligible to nominate two members to serve as participants in the dairy cattle handler's activity.
- E. The top individual will represent Delaware at the National Dairy Handler's Activity. The top 4 individuals will represent Delaware at the Big E in Springfield, MA.
- F. Handlers should have had previous experience in showing dairy cattle.
- G. Handlers will not participate in either preparation or fitting of the animals assigned.
- H. Handlers should report to the Schabinger Pavilion after registering at The Centre for further instructions and number and class assignments.
- I. If a dairy handler cannot control his/her animal, this animal may have to be displayed by an alternate holder. The original holder **SHALL NOT** be given a different animal to display.

## Event Format

- A. Contestants will lead dairy cattle during the Dairy Cattle Evaluation contest. It is important that each participant properly show cattle for this contest.
- B. Contestants must follow instructions given such as turn cattle side by side; line the cows/heifer up head to tail.
- C. Cattle must be set up to her most advantageous pose.
- D. Contestants may be given more than one animal to show during the competition. They may also be asked to switch animals during a class. It is at the discretion of the judge.
- E. If a contestant is removed from an animal because they cannot handle the animal, they will not necessarily be given another animal to show.
- F. It is very important that animal's heads are held up correctly and they are presented correctly during the competition.
- G. A student must refuse any animal that they've been practicing with at the DSF or leases/owns.

## Scoring

Evaluation and scoring of each participant will be performed by a person(s) designated by the event superintendent.

| Evaluation Criteria:                | Points |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Appearance of the handler           | 10     |
| Control of animal(s) by the handler | 20     |
| Poise and calmness of the handler   | 20     |
| Demonstrate competence in:          | 40     |

- A. setting up the assigned animal to its best advantage
  - B. maintaining the animal(s) in its most advantageous pose
  - C. effectively restraining, as well as avoiding exciting the assigned animal(s)
  - D. moving the animal(s) as requested by the ringmaster.
- Display a cooperative, courteous, helpful and positive attitude

|              |           |            |
|--------------|-----------|------------|
|              | <u>10</u> |            |
| <b>Total</b> |           | <b>100</b> |

## Awards

Awards will be presented to the top 10 individuals based upon their rankings at the State Fair FFA Awards Breakfast. The high individual will represent Delaware at National Convention, the top 4 individuals will represent Delaware at Big E.

## Dairy Cattle Handlers Activity Scorecard

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter:** \_\_\_\_\_

| Criteria:  | Points Possible | Points Earned |
|--|-----------------|---------------|
| Appearance of the handler  | 10              |               |
| Control of animal(s) by the handler  | 20              |               |
| Poise and calmness of the handler  | 20              |               |
| Demonstrate competence in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. setting up the assigned animal to its best advantage</li> <li>B. maintaining the animal(s) in its most advantageous pose</li> <li>C. effectively restraining, as well as avoiding exciting the assigned animal</li> <li>D. moving the animal(s) as requested by the ringmaster</li> </ul> | 40              |               |
| Display a cooperative, courteous, helpful and positive attitude  | 10              |               |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100</b>      |               |

Judge's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_