

NJAA CARCASS CONTEST RULES AND GUIDELINES

The National Junior Angus Association carcass contest is designed to accurately reflect real-world economics, be easier to understand and have an increased educational value for junior members on the feeder calf sector of the beef industry.

Eligibility of Participants

1. Participants must be junior, regular or life members of the American Angus Association.
2. Participants must be 8-20 as of January 1 of the current year.
3. Multiple entries from a state shall be allowed in this event's formative years. In time, each state may be eligible to designate only one participant.
4. The participant will be required to register for the event prior to entry deadline.
5. All carcass steers must be halter broke to lead and will stall with other cattle in the barn until load out.
6. All carcass steer exhibitors must be present at the time of load out. Otherwise, the steer will be disqualified.
7. All carcass steer exhibitors are required to attend a designated educational session to learn more about how to Target the Certified Angus Beef brand and the science behind the ten specifications.
8. All carcass steer exhibitors must be BQA/YQCA certified by the time of load out. A copy of the certification must be turned in at load out time.

Event Procedures

1. The carcass steers will be sold using a grid-pricing schedule.
2. Carcass steers will be evaluated for CAB qualifications per the USDA GI schedule specifications for the Certified Angus Beef brand as stated below.

Carcass Specifications

1. Modest or higher marbling.
2. Medium to fine marbling texture.
3. Only cattle harvested less than 30 months of age by dentition and only A-maturity lean – for superior color, texture and tenderness.
4. 10- to 16-square-inch ribeye area.
5. 1,100 – pound hot carcass weight or less.
6. 1 – inch or less fat thickness.
7. Superior muscling (limits light-muscled cattle).
8. Practically free of capillary rupture.
9. No dark cutters.
10. No neck hump exceeding 2 inches.

Show Categories

1. Show classifications for carcass steers: **January 1, 2024 to July 1, 2024.**
2. Minimum live weight of 950 pounds.
3. Entries will be listed in the catalog in order of age (youngest to oldest).
4. Exhibitors are allowed to show up to four carcass steers.

Prizes and Premiums

1. Banners and trophies will be award to the champion and reserve champion owned and bred and owned carcasses.
2. All premiums will be provided by Dr. Curtis and Ann Long. Premiums will be paid as follows: 1st - \$1,000; 2nd - \$750; 3rd - \$500; 4th - \$400; 5th - \$350; 6th - \$300; 7th - \$250; 8th - \$200; 9th - \$150; 10th - \$100; all others qualifying - \$50.

Cattle meeting CAB carcass specifications will receive an additional 25% in premiums. To do this the steer must meet minimum show requirements.

Entries meeting the following requirements by entry deadline will receive an added 25% to their premiums:

1. Entry must have weights processed through the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) program.
2. The dam of the entry must have weight information processed on her previous calves, or if the entry is her first calf, the dam's own performance records must have been processed through AHIR.

State Carcass Group Contest

1. All rules for eligibility to participate in the NJAA Carcass Steer Show apply to the State Carcass Group Contest.
2. A minimum of two and a maximum of three junior exhibitors from the same state can designate three steers to enter as a group.
3. The groups can be entered at any time following the official carcass steer weigh-in but must be designated prior to the cattle being shipped to the packing plant for harvest and data collection.
4. Entries can be submitted by completing a State Carcass Group Contest entry form that lists the ear tag (entry) numbers of the three steers comprising the group. The entry form for this contest will be available at the check-in table for carcass steers at the NJAS.
5. No entry fee, independent of that to participate in the individual carcass steer contest, will be assessed to those exhibitors designating cattle for the State Carcass Group Contest.
6. No limit will be placed on the number of groups a state may enter.
7. The Carcass Groups will be ranked using an adjusted group carcass index. Individual carcass index values will be averaged to determine a group index. The range between the low and the high individual indexes within the group will then be subtracted from the group index to determine the adjusted group index. The Carcass Group with the highest adjusted group index will be determined the winner.
8. Points will be appropriately awarded to each state to count toward determining the sweepstakes winner.
9. Awards and Premiums will be paid to the Champion (\$100) and Reserve Champion (\$75) State Carcass Group.