2019 State Fair of Virginia
Junior Skillathon Contests

2019 Official Schedule
Registration: Friday, October 4, 8:00 AM
Contest Begins: Friday, October 4, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Awards: Will be announced during respective livestock shows
www.ext.vt.edu/youthlivestock

SUPERINTENDENTS: Dr. Scott Greiner, Dr. Bain Wilson, Katherine Carter, & Taylor Langford, Virginia Tech

CONTEST RULES

1. Each exhibitor of livestock at State Fair of Virginia will be automatically entered in their respective species skillathon in order compete in that specie's premier exhibitor program.

2. Every livestock exhibitor will be allowed to compete in **ONE** additional skillathon contest beyond the specie(s) that they are exhibiting. All exhibitors are automatically entered in the respective skillathons for which they have animal entries. For livestock exhibitors, no pre-registration is necessary for the one additional skillathon. Contestant packets will be available during skillathon registration Friday morning at the fair.

3. Each County 4-H or FFA program is allowed to enter a maximum of 3 senior, 3 intermediate and 3 junior non-exhibitors as contestants in each species contest. **Contestants who are not exhibiting livestock must choose only one skillathon contest to enter** (i.e. an individual not exhibiting livestock can choose to compete in the goat skillathon, but they are then not allowed to compete in the beef, sheep or swine skillathon contests). Livestock exhibitors at the State Fair who are competing in this contest as part of the Premier Exhibitor program are not counted toward a chapter's/county's maximum number of entries.

4. Contestants will compete as individuals only with no team awards given.

5. Students who are not exhibiting livestock at the State Fair are not eligible to compete in skillathon contests if they have competed in the National 4-H Skillathon Contest.

6. **Non-exhibitor contestants must enter using the electronic form at https://tinyurl.com/Youth-Livestock-Skillathon prior to September 21.**

7. Exhibitors must be at least 9 years of age by September 30 of the current year and must not have had their 19th birthday before January 1 of current year. Exhibitor eligibility for 4-H youth will be verified using 4HOnline. All 4-H youth wishing to participate must be enrolled via the 4HOnline platform prior to the entry deadline of September 21st. FFA participants will be verified via the State FFA Office using 2018- 2019 Chapter Membership Rosters.

8. Age divisions will be broken as follows:
    a. Junior Division – Contestants who are 12 years of age and younger on September 30 of current year.
    b. Intermediate Division – Contestants 13-15 years of age on September 30 of current year.
    c. Senior Division – Contestants who were 16 years of age and older on September 30 of current year.

9. There is no entry fee for this contest, however each contestant, coach, and chaperone MUST have a single-day competition ticket purchased directly from the State Fair of Virginia at https://tinyurl.com/One-Day-Competition-Tkt. When purchasing these tickets, please choose "Print at Home" and enter through gate 6B (people only, this ticket will not provide entrance for vehicles). Choosing the "Will Call" option means you will not be able to pick-up your tickets until the gates open at 10:00 am.

10. The Superintendents of the contest, in cooperation with the contest committees, will be in charge of the contest and conduct it in compliance with these rules and regulations. Superintendents have authority for interpretation of contest rules.

CONDUCT OF CONTEST
1. Registration begins at 8:00 AM. The contest will begin at 8:30 AM.

2. Contestants will record their answers using the provided Scantron form. ALL Answers for ALL Age Divisions will be recorded and submitted using this method. No contestant will be allowed to take any books, notes, or pamphlets into the contest area. **Each contestant will need a No.2 pencil and clipboard.**

3. While the contest is in session there SHALL BE NO COMMUNICATION among contestants and anyone else, except as directed by the Superintendent or assistants. Cell Phones, smart watches, or other types of electronic communication may not be used by contestants while the contest is in progress. Violators will be penalized by having one or more scores disallowed.

CLASSES
1. The classes for each species will be determined by each respective skillathon committee. Potential classes include those used in a traditional stockmen's contest, but are not limited to those classes. A quiz will be included in each species' contest; the quiz will ask questions regarding each particular species.

2. The overall individual ranking shall be determined by adding each contestant's scores for every class.

3. Scores will be posted on the youth livestock website after the fair.

AWARDS

The State Fair of Virginia will provide ribbons for the ten high scoring individuals in each age class. No premiums and scholarships will be awarded. Awards will be announced during their respective species shows.