



Beef

Member Booklet

Name: _____ **Club:** _____ **Age:** _____

This beef project is great for both new and experienced beef enthusiasts. Members will learn about showing, fitting, clipping, judging, and caring for beef animals, as well as explore beef industry related topics.

Project Completion Requirements (PCR)

- Conformation
- Showmanship
- Fitting & Clipping Clinic
- Judging
- Industry or Animal Husbandry Educational Activity
- Industry and Animal Husbandry Activity Page **6 years of the project only*
- Member Booklet *(see next page for details)*

Please make sure that **ALL PCR's** are completed and present at your Club's Achievement Day.

Resource material is available from the 4-H PEI Office.



Members must show all of their project animals at their Achievement Day in order to show those animals in 4-H Classes at the Island Fairs and Exhibitions.

Exhibition Requirements

Members show their 4-H animal(s) in conformation & showmanship classes.

Members are strongly encouraged to participate in the 4-H Classes at PEI Fairs & Exhibitions.

Please check with your Project Leaders for more exhibition information and review both the General Livestock Rules and Beef Rules & Classes on the Fairs & Exhibition pages of the PEI 4-H website: www.pei4h.ca

** Updated rules, entry forms, and class lists are available in May of each year. **

4-H Year Completion

In order to complete the 4-H year members are required to:

- Complete the **PCR's (Project Completion Requirements)** as outlined above
- Complete a **Communication** Project
- Complete a **Community Service** Activity
- Complete an **Agriculture Awareness** Activity

Completing Your Member Booklet

To complete this project you are required to display this completed member booklet at your club's Achievement Day where it will be reviewed by your region's 4-H Specialist.

If your project is not completed by the date of your club's Achievement Day it becomes the responsibility of the **member** to make alternate arrangements with your 4-H Specialist to have your member booklet reviewed.



You should aim to take your member booklet to all meetings and activities for this project.

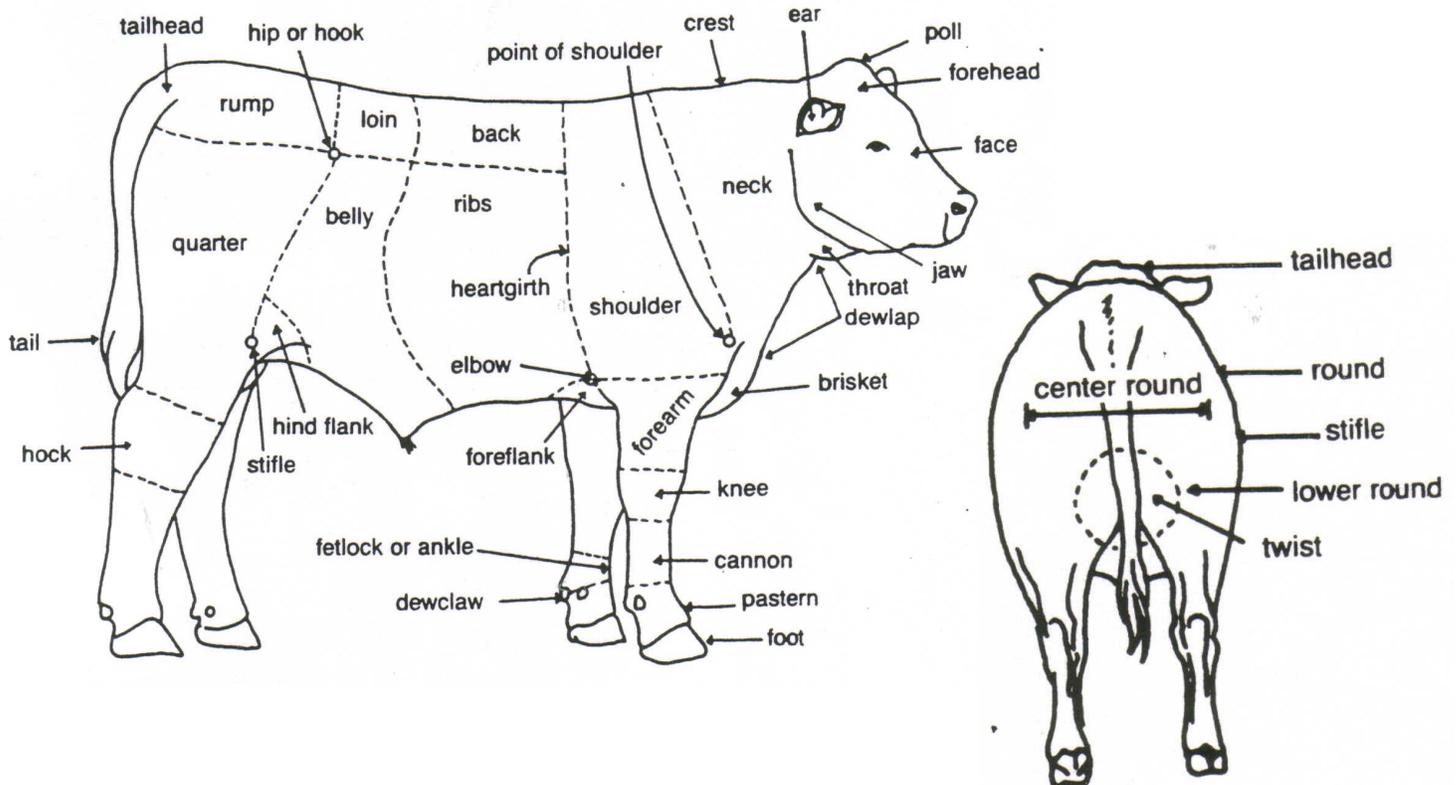
We recommend protecting your member booklet in a small binder and including a few blank sheets of paper for taking notes. Please remember to take a pen or pencil to all your meetings.

There are several pages in this booklet that will need to be completed for your Achievement Day:

- Fitting & Clipping Clinic** (date, location, and signature of leader)
- Judging** (score card)
- Industry or Animal Husbandry Educational Activity** (date, location, description, and signature of leader)
- Industry and Animal Husbandry Activity Page:** These are available to download and print from the 4-H PEI website. There are six activity pages in total and each member is to complete one a year to include in their member booklet. They are to be done in order from one through six. Once a member has completed all six for this project they are no longer required of that member for completion of this project.
- Member Reflection**
- 4-H Year Completion Checklist**

Not required but encouraged > Feel free to add additional project related materials to your binder such as educational resources, photos of your animals or project activities, etc.

Parts of the Beef Animal



The Creed of the 4-H Animal Caretaker

I WILL: Be kind to my animals. I will not take my frustrations out on animals. I will be patient while training my animal. I will never physically abuse my animal and I will only use low-stress handling methods and tools.

I WILL: Provide comfortable and sufficient housing for my animals. I will house my animal with enough space to prevent crowding and fighting. When I tie my animal, I will make sure the rope is not too tight and that there is nothing nearby that can harm the animal. This also means that I will help to prevent my animal from being too hot or too cold, both at home or during transport.

I WILL: Feed my animal on time each day. I will make sure that I can financially afford to feed my animal the right amount and type of feed every day on a regular schedule. This will provide the nutrition my animal needs and ensure the daily comfort of my animal.

I WILL: Provide my animals with clean water. Every day I will check that the water supply for my animal is clean, free of ice, easily accessible and working properly.

I WILL: Keep my animals free from disease and parasites. To ensure the good health of my project animal, I will observe it carefully every day, to see that it is eating and behaving normally. If my animal appears unhealthy, I will see that it receives immediate attention. I will keep accurate and complete records of any health problems that occur. I will never subject my animal to undue suffering.

I WILL: Learn as much as possible about the best methods of feeding and caring for animals. By learning about different methods, my animals will benefit from new ideas that help to ensure that my animals receive the best possible care. I can explore new animal husbandry ideas through reading, asking questions, attending workshops and participating in 4-H activities.

I WILL: Strive to improve the breeding and quality of my animals. The more structurally sound, efficient and productive our animals are, the less stress will be placed on them.

I WILL: Always be a good sport in competition. Events, including Achievement Days, are one way that the public can see how important proper care of our animals is to us. Good manners and a courteous disposition go a long way in presenting a good impression to my fellow members and the public.

I WILL: Talk to my 4-H volunteers or fellow members about others who are not following this creed and are not setting a good example of animal care.

I WILL: Complete my project and take part in all the activities of my 4-H club each year. By taking part in all the activities and completing the project each year, I am allowing myself to learn and experience all that I can about my project. This will help me to improve my understanding of animals and my methods of caring for them.

The Five Freedoms

Farmers, 4-H members, animal owners and caretakers are all responsible for providing their animals with these five freedoms:

Freedom from thirst, hunger and malnutrition by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor.

Freedom from discomfort by providing a suitable environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.

Freedom from pain, injury and disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.

Freedom to express normal behavior by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind.

Freedom from fear and distress by ensuring conditions that avoid mental suffering.

For more information on the standard of care for beef animals see the:
National Farm Animal Care Council's

Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Beef Cattle

www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/beef-cattle

Showmanship Classes

Ages for 4-H members as of
January 1st of the 4-H year:

Junior: 9-11 years

Intermediate: 12-14 years

Senior: 15-21 years

PLEASE REMEMBER!!!!

Animal Identification & Exhibition Entry Forms, plus
Animal Registration Papers, & Proof of Off-Site Liability
Insurance of \$1,000,000 are due to the 4-H Office by

June 1st!

Conformation Class Categories:

Members 9-21 years of age must exhibit a minimum of one of the following:

- ⇒ A heifer calf born January 1 - May 1
- ⇒ A bull calf born January 1 - May 1
- ⇒ A junior steer born January 1 - May 1
- ⇒ A senior steer born October 1 - December 31
- ⇒ A yearling heifer born January 1 - December 31 of the previous year

NOTE:

*Members may not
register two animals
from the same category;
i.e. 2 Angus heifers
or 2 junior steers.*

**Be A
Good Sport!**

In the spirit of "learn to do by doing" all those involved in 4-H are encouraged to practice good sportsmanship, use common sense at all 4-H activities, and the work in any 4-H project should be the member's own work.



Remember... All cattle need an RFID tag, before they leave the farm. This is the law and must be adhered to. Canada has a trace back system which is operated through the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency. The Canadian Cattle Identification Program is an industry initiated and established trace back system designed for the containment and eradication of animal disease.

The recommended dress code for Beef classes is:

- ⇒ **Shirt** - Breed colours or a collared, button up shirt
- ⇒ **Pants** - Long pants (no rips or tears)
- ⇒ **Footwear** - Hard soled footwear for member's safety

Please Note

No 4-H animals shown at exhibitions shall have horns exceeding 2" in length, and all horn tips should be dull.

Fitting & Clipping Clinic

As part of your project, you are required to participate in a fitting and clipping clinic. Your leader will make the arrangements for a session in which you and other project members will learn how to prepare your own animals for showing.

DATE OF CLINIC: _____ LOCATION: _____

SIGNATURE OF LEADER: _____



Learn To Do By Doing



Industry or Animal Husbandry Educational Activity

As part of your project, you are required to participate in a **beef** industry or animal husbandry educational activity. This activity is usually arranged by the project leader for the project group, but, with their project leader's permission, the member can choose to participate in this activity independently (i.e. by attending a workshop, lecture, tour, etc.).

DATE OF ACTIVITY: _____ LOCATION: _____

DESCRIPTION: _____

SIGNATURE OF LEADER: _____

4-H Judging

Judging is an important skill that you will use in 4-H and beyond. As a 4-H member, judging will help you develop important assessment skills, and with practice, you will learn to carefully observe, evaluate, make decisions, communicate with confidence. The skills learned from 4-H judging are used in everyday life situations, so it is always a useful skill to build!

The judging activity will be arranged by your project leader.

Members must fill out the score card below showing that the activity has been completed.

Score Card for Judging

I place this class of: _____ in the order of _____
(Description - specify type of animals or items) (1st) (2nd) (3rd) (4th)

I place _____ over _____ because:

Reasons: _____

I place _____ over _____ because:

Reasons: _____

I place _____ over _____ because:

Reasons: _____

I place _____ at the bottom of this class because:

Reasons: _____

For these reasons, I place this class of: _____ in the order of _____
(1st) (2nd) (3rd) (4th)

4-H MEMBER OPPORTUNITY - Provincial 4-H Judging Competition (Annual Event)

This event is open to all members, ages 9-21, and offers a great opportunity to learn more about judging in a competitive atmosphere. Three age categories & cash prizes awarded to top members for their judging abilities. Senior members (17-21) also compete for the chance to join the **Maritime 4-H Judging Team** to compete at **Agribition** (Regina, SK) in November.



- ⇒ **4-H Canada Learns** is a resource tool providing information on 4-H projects from different provinces. Check out www.4-h-learns.org/resources - keyword "judging" - for resource documents that will help with developing and building your judging skills!
- ⇒ **4-H PEI** is able to provide information to members and leaders on both livestock and non-livestock judging practices. Check with your 4-H Specialist for more information **AND** be sure to check out the 4-H PEI Judging Resource page at www.pei4h.ca/4-h-judging-resources

General Tips for all Livestock Showpersons

Preparation:

- ⇒ Be neat and clean with clothes of the recommended dress code for the particular livestock type, and wearing boots or shoes that are suitable. Hard-soled shoes are desirable; rubber boots or boots half laced should not be used. Nothing should be worn that focuses attention on the handler rather than the animal. He/she should not chew gum.
- ⇒ **Make sure** the animal is **clean, well-groomed** and **well-trained**. This includes recent clipping, hoof trimming, etc. Also, the ability to stop, start, and move the animal at the request of the judge is important.
- ⇒ **Make sure** the **halter** is clean and well-fitted.
- ⇒ Sun Safety hats are permitted to be worn by 4-H members while showing in 4-H classes in outdoor rings.

Attitude:

- ⇒ Be **alert**, but **polite** and **courteous** to the judge and fellow show persons.
- ⇒ Always remember to **control** emotions and appear keen but relaxed, regardless of placing's, accepting the decision of the judge in a sportsmanlike manner. Keep in mind that the class is not over until the placing are announced, and continue showing until out of the show ring.
- ⇒ Keep the **animal under control** at all times and make **frequent glances** at the judge to watch for directions.
- ⇒ Be prepared to answer questions that may be asked by a judge, such as the animal's date of birth, whether or not the animal is bred, etc.
- ⇒ Be prepared to **lead any animal** the judge designates.
- ⇒ **Be prompt** entering the ring.

Technique:

- ⇒ Explicitly **follow the directions** of the judge.
- ⇒ Lead in a **clockwise** direction. Be **prepared to change the speed and/or direction of the walk** as directed by the judge.
- ⇒ Do not allow the halter strap to drag on the ground, nor wrap the strap around the hand.
- ⇒ Avoid "grandstanding"
- ⇒ **Follow accepted practices** in leading for each specific livestock type.
- ⇒ **Do not fuss inappropriately** with the animal when it is properly posed.
- ⇒ When asked to stop, **try to anticipate where the animal's front feet should be** and ideally **walk it into that position**.
- ⇒ **Make sure the animal looks its best** from the time it enters the ring until it leaves.

Basic Techniques:

- ⇒ **Moving around the front of the animal:** Move **quietly**, but **quickly** and smoothly. Move to give the judge the best view of the animal. **Never** stand between the judge and the exhibit.
- ⇒ **Stopping and placing the animal to advantage:** Make use of the slope of the ground, when possible, and stand the animal with the front feet level or higher than the back feet. Recognize the conformation faults of the animal and show it in a manner that will minimize these faults.
- ⇒ **Move sharply** to the centre of the ring **when requested to do so**.
- ⇒ **Turn the animal** the correct way. Unless otherwise directed, the handler should always walk clockwise around the animal. The handler always goes around the animal, not the animal around the handler.
- ⇒ **Moving from one position to another, whether up or down:** The handler may move the animal ahead, turn clockwise, and come back through the same position and directly into the new position.
- ⇒ **Regarding a contestant who has been moved ahead of him/her:** Make room in lineup, and be courteous. Being discourteous in this regard could result in discrimination.
- ⇒ **Making a change of handlers:** The conformation of the new animal should be observed quickly and carefully in order to show it to best advantage. Place animal properly first, **then** roll up the halter.

General Showmanship Score Card

Evidence of training and preparation of the animal 30 points

- ⇒ Animal leads well
- ⇒ Starts and stops easily
- ⇒ Poses easily
- ⇒ Appears accustomed to handling
- ⇒ Stand quietly
- ⇒ Cleanliness of animal
- ⇒ Proper management and preparation prior to show
- ⇒ Clipping, trimming, etc.

Showing the animal in the ring 50 points

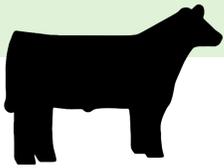
- ⇒ Ease of handling the animal
- ⇒ Proper leading of the animal
- ⇒ Animal's response to exhibitor's movements
- ⇒ Avoids sharp turns, over-crowding and pushing
- ⇒ Poses the animal properly
- ⇒ Convenient and suitable hold on lead strap or reins
- ⇒ Ease of moving or positioning the animal
- ⇒ Alertness and style of the animal
- ⇒ Indication of good knowledge of animal's faults and habits, and compensation for such faults

Ring manners and appearance of show person 20 points

- ⇒ Clothes neat, clean, and suitable to occasion
- ⇒ Full attention to task
- ⇒ Avoids distractions from outside the ring
- ⇒ Courteous and polite to other exhibitors and the judge
- ⇒ Not over-showing
- ⇒ Poise and alert
- ⇒ Good knowledge of animal's pedigree, care, and management program

Top Showman Tips

- ⇒ It's important to train your animal with the leather halter several times before the show, so that the animal can get used to a different halter and the jingling chain.
- ⇒ If you are not the first showmanship class in the ring, one should use the opportunity to watch the first class and learn how the judge is moving the animals and what he is asking them to do. This will better prepare you, by knowing what to expect when you enter the ring.
- ⇒ It is key to be ready to enter the ring when your class is called. This means keeping track of earlier classes and knowing the amount of time needed to have you and your animal ready so that you can arrive early to ringside before your class. It's also a good idea to take your animal for a walk before you enter the ring so that they get used to the surroundings and new noises.
- ⇒ If you have the chance to be first into the ring, go for it. First impressions go a long way in the judge's mind. It is important for the first showmen in the ring to set the pace, leading the animal at a brisk pace in a large circle.
- ⇒ Always turn your animal to the right, whether it's when changing positions or repositioning your animal. (*This is to avoid being stepped on, if you turn the opposite way the member is most likely guaranteed to get stepped on by their animal)
- ⇒ The judges first lineup is generally not their final placing's, and therefore you shouldn't become discouraged or quit showing until the class is dismissed.
- ⇒ Listen to the judge's reasons. If there is something that they pinpoint that you can improve on take that lesson and either practice it or remember it for your next show. Build on the skills you have!
- ⇒ No matter your placing, at the end of your class you should feel confident knowing that you have competed and presented yourself and your animal to the best of your ability and in a professional manner.
- ⇒ A good showman will always be courteous and maintains a sportsman like attitude throughout the show. Always maintain a positive attitude and learn by watching more experienced showman, to help you gain helpful tips.



Beef Showmanship

In showmanship, you are judged on your ability to control and present an animal to bring out its best characteristics. The first step is preparation. Putting your time and effort into training and halter breaking your animal to lead and stand correctly before stepping hoof on a trailer, should be your first priority.

Equipment:

Leather Show Halter - The leather show halter is used in the show ring to give a professional presentation of your animal. Make sure that it is the correct size for your animal (there is a difference between the size of calf and yearling halters). When on the animal head the nose band should be half way between the eyes and the muzzle. Your halter should be cleaned and shined and the lead strap when hanging down with the animals head held up should barely graze the ground and be cut 5-6 inches higher (*This is to avoid tripping and getting tangled up).

When leading your animal the shank should be held tightly close to your animals head with your right hand so that you can feel all movements of your animal. The remainder of the shank can be either left to hang so that you have one hand on the halter or held by the left hand with the cane. Judges opinion can differ on the proper way; the member should lead their animal the way that they feel most comfortable. (*Never coil or loop the lead strap around your hand, as it is dangerous and does not look professional).

Scotch Comb - Comb should be carried in your back right-hand pocket with the teeth of the comb facing inwards to the showman's body. The comb is used to place the hair back into place after the judge has run their hands over the animals hide.

Show Stick - The show stick is used to place the animals hind fit. When walking, the cane is held in the left hand by the grip, perpendicular with the pointed end downwards to the ground. Your cane should be chin height or long enough for you to reach the back legs of your animal while standing at its head.



Showing Procedures

Circle the ring clockwise at a brisk walk, with your animals head up to show alertness

While leading the animal, the showman walks on the left hand side of the animals head, so that the judge will have a full side profile view of the animal.

It's important to keep one eye on the judge (and ringmaster) and the other on your animal at all times. A good showman knows where both the judge and ringmaster are at all times. Always be looking for hand signals or other directions.

When the judge motions for you stop, switch the lead strap into your left hand and the cane into your right and begin to set up the animals legs. Keep a straight line and the animals head up.

Always leave several feet between yours and the next animal so that the judge can freely move around the line up to see your animal as well as fellow competitors.

You can place your animals feet with pressure on the halter combined with the use of your show stick. Pushing back or pulling forward on the halter will cause the animal to move its feet alone, due to the change in weight distribution. The cane is an aid to help you placing feet.

When lined up side by side as when you are being placed, your animal legs should be square.

Showing Procedures continued...

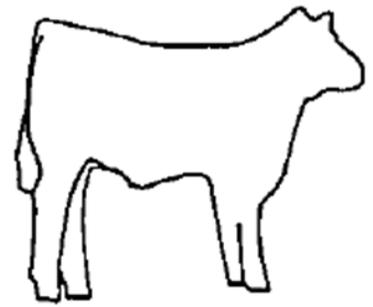
When stopped in the ring, or lined up head to tail, your animal should be "Side Profiled". This means that the back hind leg on the showman's side should be placed ahead a bit. When the judge looks at your animal it should look like Figure 4.

Find a spot along the underside of the calf and **slowly and gently** scratch the animal with the show stick. Be calm! Increase the pressure when the judge is looking if the animal has a weak top as this will keep the animals back from sagging.

When the judge approaches it is important to at all times allow for full view of the calf from where ever they are standing. Keep your animals feet positioned and the head held up and pointing straight ahead.

Be prepared to answer questions about your animal. (Questions may include, birth date, sire, dam, breed, weight, best physical quality of your calf, worst physical quality and what you are doing as a showmen to fix it)

After the judge moves on to the next animal, comb hair back into place if and only if it was touched, and make sure the animal is still set up properly.



**Figure 4. (Judges View)
Set up when viewed
on the "Side Profile"**

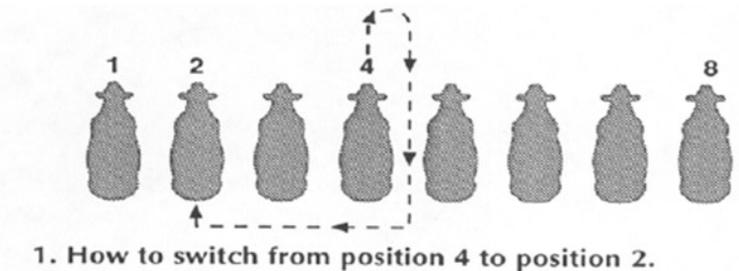
Lining Up

When the judge motions your placement, proceed promptly to line up, and pull in so that you are even with the animals placed, making sure that you leave lots of space between you and the animal above you. (So the judge can walk around and you are able to easily place your animal's feet).

When instructed to change place in line, lead out forward and turn the animal right. Learn the below figures 5 - 8 to know the correct direction to take.

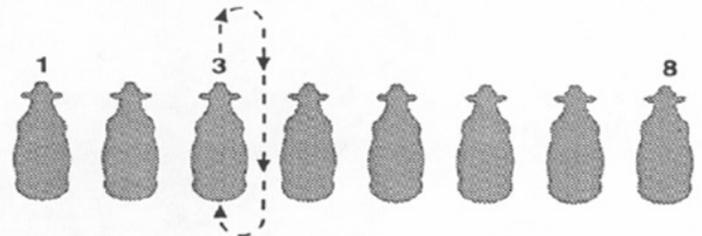
REMEMBER > Members are responsible for care, preparation and exhibition of 4-H project animals. 4-H club leaders and/or parents should be on hand to assist members should they encounter difficulties; however, **SHOULD NOT** perform duties which members can do themselves.

*Showmanship Information for this guide
extracted from the 4-H Nova Scotia
4-H Livestock Showmanship Guide.*



1. How to switch from position 4 to position 2.

Figure 4 Switching placings in a Beef Showmanship class



2. How to reset in the same position using position 3.

Figure 5 Repositioning your animal in a Beef Showmanship class



3. How to go from position 2 to position 7.

Figure 6 Switching positions in a Beef Showmanship class

GOOD LUCK AND GOOD SHOWING!

Member Reflection

As a 4-H member, you are encouraged to “Learn to Do by Doing” through hands-on activities. Keeping a record of your 4-H activities with this **Member Reflection** will provide helpful insight for you, your leader and the 4-H Specialist as to skills you have learned and projects you have completed throughout the 4-H year!



Skill Based Project: You are encouraged to work on skill development and completion of project requirements (with guidance from the project leader) throughout the 4-H year. Not every activity will have a tangible item (for display), but you are asked to share the activities and learnings in which you participate below...

Project Activity:

What I did:

What I learned:

What I liked:

Project Activity:

What I did:

What I learned:

What I liked:

Project Activity:

What I did:

What I learned:

What I liked:

Project Activity:

What I did:

What I learned:

What I liked:

Project Activity:

What I did:

What I learned:

What I liked:

(feel free to use more space if necessary!)

LEADER COMMENTS (optional): Leader observations can be helpful to you in future years with this and other 4-H projects. Be sure to ask your project leader if they would like to reflect on your 4-H year.

I am most impressed by...

I believe that you have learned...

In the future I encourage you to...

4-H Year Completion Checklist

In addition to completing a Skill Based 4-H project, members are also required to participate in Communications, at least **ONE** Ag. Awareness Activity and **ONE** Community Service Activity in order to complete the 4-H year.

Use the space provided to reflect on what you have learned through participation in these activities.

If this information has already been completed in another booklet, please indicate where it can be found:

My Communications Activity

- Speech
 Demonstration (Single)
 Demonstration (Team)
 Alternate Communications: _____

What I learned: _____

What I can work on: _____

Agriculture Awareness Activity

What did you do to complete this activity this year? (Either on your own or with your 4-H Club)

What area of Agriculture would you like to explore in the future?

Community Service Activity

What did you do to complete this activity this year? (Either on your own or with your 4-H Club)

What will you do in the future to give back to your community?

4-H PEI - Staff Comments (Optional)

Completion Requirements		Completion Notes
Skill Based Project		
Communications		
Ag. Awareness Activity		
Community Service Activity		