

National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest

The first National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest was held at Keeneland Race Course in Lexington, Kentucky in conjunction with the 1967 American Angus Breeder's Futurity. Since 1974, the Contest has been moved to coincide with the National Junior Angus Show, but the idea is still the same -- the best showmen in the country compete for the title of "Champion Angus Showman". To be eligible to compete in the contest, participants must qualify by placing first or second in their respective state junior showmanship contest. Each contestant in the national contest receives a specially designed photo plaque and a cash award. The top five showmen also receive silver Revere bowls and added prize money. The contest is a grand opportunity to meet other showmen and learn new techniques of showmanship.

National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest Rules

1. Supervision of the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest will be under the direction of the Events & Junior Activities Department of the American Angus Association and will be held each year at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS).
2. Contestants must be a junior, life or regular member of the American Angus Association PRIOR to participating in their state contest.
3. Contestant's birth date must be from **January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2009.**
4. Contestants, by entering, agree to abide by the rules herein set forth, including any changes that may be deemed necessary for the best interests of the contest, the contestants, and the herds furnishing animals.
5. **ANY CONTESTANT WHO HAS PARTICIPATED IN ANY OF THE PREVIOUS NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS SHOWMANSHIP CONTESTS IS AUTOMATICALLY INELIGIBLE FOR ENSUING NATIONAL SHOWMANSHIP COMPETITION.**
6. To be eligible, each contestant and alternate must presently own registered Angus.
7. Entries will be limited to two contestants from each state or province. All states/provinces should select two alternates in case one or both of the winners is unable to participate. Names of the contestants and alternates must be submitted to the Events & Junior Activities Department of the American Angus Association no later than **May 15, 2024** if their name is to appear in the program.
8. The names of the contestants must be submitted by the secretary of the state/provincial Angus Association in the state or province to be represented or a state junior Angus association advisor. Selection of the contestants is the responsibility of the adult and/or junior state/provincial Angus Association.
9. The heifers used by the contestants will be heifers provided by exhibitors at the NJAS. Heifers will be groomed by the owner of the heifer being used, not the contestant. All contestants will select a junior yearling heifer to use, but heifers will be switched at least once in the show ring during the contest. Contestants will fill out a form with the selected heifer's information and turn in during showmanship check-in. AAA officials will be on hand to assist the contestants with the selection of a heifer to use, if needed. For the showmanship finals, AAA officials will select 15 heifers for the finalists to use.
10. **No 'cable halters', 'prong leads' or any other halters or leads classified as such will be allowed during the contest. In the case a heifer arrives with a halter or lead not allowed, the animal will not be used during the contest.**
11. **Contestants are required to wear a white collared shirt, black or dark blue pants, and a show harness.**
12. Preliminary classes will be established, not to exceed fifteen (15) in any one class.

13. Contestants will be judged on the following by a panel of experienced showmen.
 - A. Skill, handling and response of the animal to the contestant.
 - B. Use of equipment by contestant during the contest.
 - C. General appearance of the contestant.
 - D. Showing courtesy and sportsmanship.
 - E. Ability to follow instructions during the contest.
14. The basis for judging will not include the individual excellence of the heifers shown by the contestants.
15. Premiums will be provided by the American Angus Association and the Angus Foundation. The top five places will receive a silver revere bowl provided by the American Angus Auxiliary. The first place showmanship award is named the "Dean Hurlbut Showmanship Award". Premiums are as follows:
 - First - \$350
 - Second - \$250
 - Third - \$175
 - Fourth - \$125
 - Fifth - \$100
 - Sixth through remaining places - \$75.
16. Special awards will be given to the finalists selected by the official judges.
17. THE AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION IS NOT HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS.