

**SHOWING YOUR DAIRY ANIMAL  
DAIRY CATTLE, LEVEL II**

**Member Handout 7, Scorecard for Fitting and Showmanship**

<b>SCORECARD</b>	
	<b>Points</b>
<b>Appearance of Animal .....</b>	<b>40</b>
Condition .....	10
Grooming .....	10
Clipping .....	10
Cleanliness .....	10
<b>Appearance of Exhibitor .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Showing Animal in the Ring .....</b>	<b>50</b>
Leading .....	15
Posing .....	15
Show Animal to Best Advantage .....	10
Poise, Alertness, Attitude .....	10
	<b>100</b>

**EXPLANATION OF SCORECARD**

**A. APPEARANCE OF ANIMAL ..... 40**

1. Condition and thriftiness, showing normal growth, being neither too fat nor too thin. .... 10
2. Grooming ..... 10
  - a. Hair properly groomed and the hide soft and pliable. Hair dressing should not be used in excess.
  - b. Hooves trimmed and shaped to enable animal to walk and stand naturally.
  - c. Horns (if present) scraped and polished.
3. Clipping ..... 10
  - a. The final clipping should be done about two days before the show.
  - b. Head, ears, tail, udder, and elsewhere clipped as needed but not over entire body. Belly and udder not to be clipped on heifers that have not freshened and are not springing close.

**B. APPEARANCE OF EXHIBITOR ..... 10**

1. Clothes and person, neat and clean, white clothing preferred.

**C. SHOWING ANIMAL IN THE RING ..... 50**

1. Leading ..... 15
  - a. Enter leading the animal at normal walk around the ring in a clockwise direction, walking opposite her head on the left side, holding the lead strap with the right hand quite close to the halter with the strap neatly, but naturally (not necessarily coiled) gathered in one or both hands. Holding close to the halter ensures a more secure control of an animal.
  - b. Animal should lead readily and respond quickly.
  - c. Halter of dairy type, fitting properly and correctly placed on animal. A leather halter is best.
  - d. As the judge studies your animal, the preferred method of leading is walking slowly backward, facing the animal and holding the lead strap in the left hand. (Face forward when leading at all other times.)

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DAIRY CATTLE, LEVEL II**

**Member Handout 7, Scorecard for Fitting and Showmanship, *continued***

- e. Lead slowly with animal's head held high enough for the animal to present an impressive style, attractive carriage and graceful walk.
- 2. Posing ..... 15
  - a. When posing and showing an animal stay on the animal's left side and stand faced at an angle to her in a position far enough away to see stance of her feet and her topline.
  - b. Pose animal with feet placed squarely under her with the hind leg nearest to the judge slightly behind the other one. (When posing cows in milk, the hind leg nearest to the judge should be slightly ahead of the other one.)
  - c. Face animal uphill, if possible, with her front feet on a slight incline.
  - d. Neither crowd the exhibitor next to you nor leave enough space for another animal when you lead into a side-by-side position.
  - e. Animal may be backed out of line when judge requests that her placing be changed. Many prefer to lead animal forward and around the end of the line or back through the line. Do not lead animal between the judge and an animal being observed.
  - f. Do most of the showing with the halter lead strap and avoid stepping on animal's hind feet to move them.
  - g. Step animal ahead by a slight pull on the lead strap.
  - h. Move animal back by exerting pressure on the shoulder point with the thumb and fingers of the right hand as you push back with the halter.
  - i. When judge is observing the animal, let her stand when posed reasonably well.
  - j. Be natural. Overshowing, undue fussing and maneuvering is objectionable.
- 3. Show to Best Advantage ..... 10
  - a. Quickly recognize the conformation faults of the animal you are leading and show her to overcome them. You may be asked to exchange with another and show her or his animal for awhile.
- 4. Poise, Alertness and Attitude ..... 10
  - a. Keep an eye on your animal and be aware of the position of the judge at all times. Do not be distracted by persons and things outside the ring.
  - b. Show animal at all times and not yourself.
  - c. Respond rapidly to requests from the judge and officials.
  - d. Be courteous and sportsmanlike at all times.
  - e. Keep showing until the entire class has been placed and the judge has given the reasons.