



ILR-SD
Youth Judging
Manual

To be used in
conjunction with ILR-SD
Guidelines

Revised 2/14/14

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ILR-SD YOUTH JUDGING COMPETITION

Purpose: To provide the opportunity for ILR-SD youth members to experience the show ring from the Judge's perspective and encourage members to pursue judge's training. This may be held in conjunction with an ILR-SD sanctioned show or in conjunction with a different event, provided that an ILR-SD judge is used and is qualified to judge the classes in the competition.

1. Participants: The ILR-SD Youth Judging Competition is open to all ILR-SD youth members. Participants will use their ILR-SD Owner Code as their identifier on their placing cards. Show management has the discretion to limit the number of participants in the Youth Judging Competition.

2. Fees: A \$5 fee per youth will be paid to the ILR-SD for participation in the Judging Competition.

3. Classes to be Judged: Show management will offer the following three divisions for the ILR-SD Judging Competition: Halter, Showmanship, and Free Style Obstacle. Show management should assign four people to be Competition Handlers of four individual animals. Animals used may be non-show animals or may be an animal participating in the show as long as the Competition Handler does not use their own animal.

4. Process: The Judge will be encouraged to give a very brief introduction and explanation of what is important when evaluating each division before judging begins. Participants will be provided an ILR-SD Judging Competition score sheet for each class judged. They will assemble in the show ring with the Judge and score the class on their own giving brief oral reasons for their halter placings (Seniors and Intermediates only). Juniors would complete a written examination. Show management will evaluate the score sheets using the Hormel Scoring Template to determine the winner. Tiebreakers will be predetermined by the Judge and the show management. When all participants have turned in their score sheet, the Judge may give oral reasons for their placings and allow a very brief discussion. Either a computer program can be used to judge the score cards or a clerk can be used to tally the Hormel Scoring on the score cards.

DEFINITION OF A GOOD YOUTH JUDGE

The opportunity to participate in a Youth Judging competition is a privilege, not a right. The privilege to judge our wonderful animals should be done honestly, fairly and impartially toward each and every participant/animal exhibited in front of him/her. It is important that all youth potential judges conduct themselves in an ethical, unbiased manner being respectful of exhibitors, show management and other youth judges and the presiding judge. Keep in mind that as youth judges, you are a representative of the ILR-SD and are regarded as such. Other youth exhibitors will look up to you!

A youth judge should demonstrate good sportsmanship and courtesy whether participating in the youth judging competition or as an exhibitor.

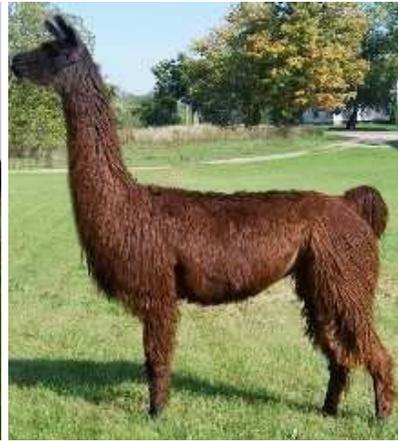
At all times those participating in youth judging competitions should act in a professional manner. He/she should abide by all known laws and statutes. He/she should avoid abusive behavior, speech, or discrimination.



HALTER CLASS DIVISIONS

- 1) Suri
 - a) Fiber exhibits a distinct locked architecture with luster.
 - b) Fiber hangs straight down from the midline on the back.
 - c) Consists of locks that form close to the skin.
 - d) Fiber exhibits independent movement.
 - e) Fiber exhibits a cool, slick handle.
 - f) Fiber exhibits no crimp.
 - g) Fiber exhibits no loft.
 - h) Coverage may vary from light to heavy.
 - i) Ideally entries exhibit the majority of these criteria.

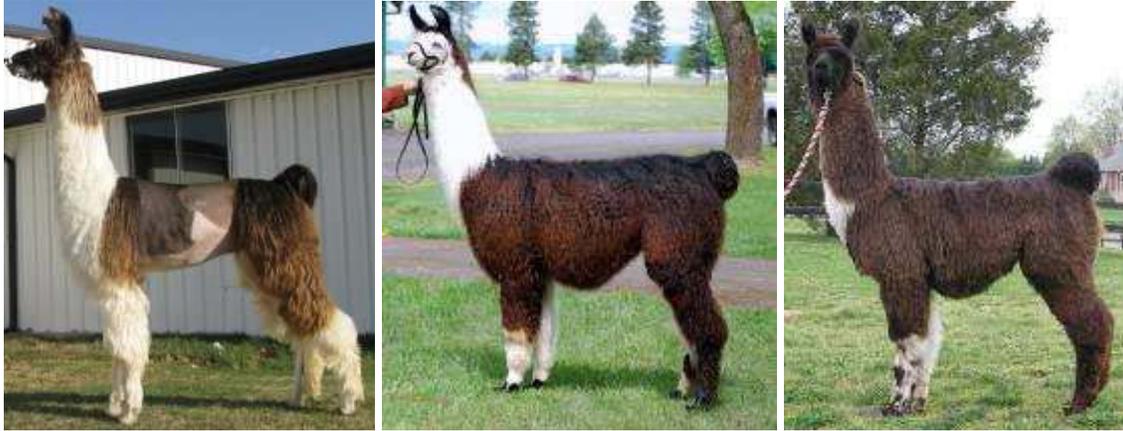
Suri Llama Examples



2) Silky

- a) Fiber exhibits a very soft or silky handle.
- b) Fiber may exhibit some wave or crinkle but not crimp.
- c) Fiber may exhibit some loft.
- d) Fiber may exhibit luster.
- e) Guard hair is nearly indiscernible.
- f) Coverage may vary from light to heavy.

Silky Llama Examples



3) Classic

- a) Abundant guard hair visible on the body and neck of the animal, with short and minimal “downy” undercoat.
- b) The presence of a guard hair “mane” on the back of the neck.
- c) A natural change in the fleece at the level of the elbow/stifle, with the fleece below this point being very short.
- d) Natural windows of short fleece – brisket, belly, flank.
- e) Minimal Fleece on legs/head with characteristics like guard hair, not the downy undercoat.

Classic Llama Examples



4) Light Wool

- a) Most will have double coat with moderate density but short length.
- b) Fleece coverage should rapidly decline below the elbow/stifle, and be very short below the knee/hock.
- c) Most animals will exhibit obvious guard hair that is longer than the undercoat.

Light Wool Llama Examples



5) Medium Wool

- a) Animals may be double coated with moderate density and length.
- b) Front legs may exhibit coverage extending down the leg with minimal coverage below the knee.
- c) Rear legs may exhibit coverage extending down the leg with minimal coverage below the hock.

Medium Wool Llama Examples



6) Moderate Heavy Wool

- a) Animals will exhibit even neck fleece that blends into body fleece of moderate density and length.
- b) Front legs will exhibit coverage down to the knees, potentially down to the toes with a decline in coverage below the knees.
- c) Rear legs will exhibit coverage down to the pastern on the back of the legs with minimal coverage on the front of the legs.

Moderate Heavy Wool Llama Examples



7) Extreme Heavy Wool

- a) Will exhibit abundant neck and body fleece.
- b) Front legs will exhibit coverage down to the toes maintaining heavy coverage below the knees.
- c) Rear legs will exhibit dense coverage down the back of the legs along with fiber on the front side of the legs.

Extreme Heavy Wool Llama Examples



HALTER CLASS DEFINITIONS

Axial alignment: As viewed from the top, a line drawn thru the withers down the center of the back to the tail head should divide the body into separate halves.

Balance: The common denominator of function, type and conformation.

Body balance: A line drawn from the point of the elbow through the center of the stifle should be parallel to the ground. Also, vertical lines drawn from the front of the stifle to the front of the hip and the point of the elbow should be perpendicular to the ground and divide the body into equal thirds. The head and neck act as a balance arm for the body and should be proportional to the length of back.

Body type: An inherited characteristic of an animal or breed that best fits it for a specific function.

Conformation: The form or outline of an animal to include the relationship of form to function. Conformation is the key to an animal's method of progression. Proportions of the body conformation as compared to the limb conformation may determine whether or not there will be any interference of the limbs during progression.

Conformation of the limbs: The animal should be observed from a distance as well as up close, and at rest and in motion. The limbs should be proportional to the height, depth and length of the body. The gait can be evaluated by studying the feet as they leave the ground, during flight and as they land. As viewed from the front and the rear, a vertical line from the point of the shoulder and from point of the hip should bisect the limbs.

Front legs: as viewed from the side, a vertical line dropped from the center of the elbow should bisect the limb and the back of the heel.

Rear legs: as viewed from the side, a line from the point of the hip should line up with the back of the hock, run down the back of the cannon bone and land just behind the heel of the foot.

Movement: The way a llama moves often helps a judge learn more information about the animal's conformational faults and strengths. You do need to remember that llamas do not always move freely on their own. Sometimes they need to be observed behind another animal to fairly evaluate them. An ideal animal will walk in a normal gait keeping both back legs following directly behind the leg in front.

Conformation of Top Line

- Top line should be level as viewed from wither to hips and parallel to the ground.
- The rump should have a slight slope with the base of the tail (tail set) near the front of the hip bone.
- Animals should exhibit normal external reproductive organ development.

Fore Limb Conformation Faults

- Base Narrow (feet too close)
- Base Wide (feet too wide)
- Toed In (dishing)
- Toed Out (splay footed)
- Backward deviation of the knees (calf knees)
- Forward deviation of the knees (Buck knees)
- Inward deviation of the knees (winging)
- Outward deviation of the knees (dishing)
- Lack of shoulder angulation (post legged)
- Camped under in front – limb below the elbow is too far behind perpendicular line
- Camped out in front – limb below the elbow is too far in front of perpendicular line
- Abnormal fetlock/pastern angulation – too vertical or too much slope



Abnormal fetlock/pastern angulation

Rear Limb Conformation Faults

- Base Narrow (rope walking)
- Base Wide (feet too wide)
- Toed In (pigeon toed)
- Inward deviation of the hock (cow hocked)
- Excess angulation of the hock (sickle hocked)
- Excessively straight leg (post legged)
- Camped under behind (leg too far forward of vertical line)
- Camped out behind (leg too far behind vertical line)
- Abnormal fetlock/pastern angulation – too vertical or too much slope



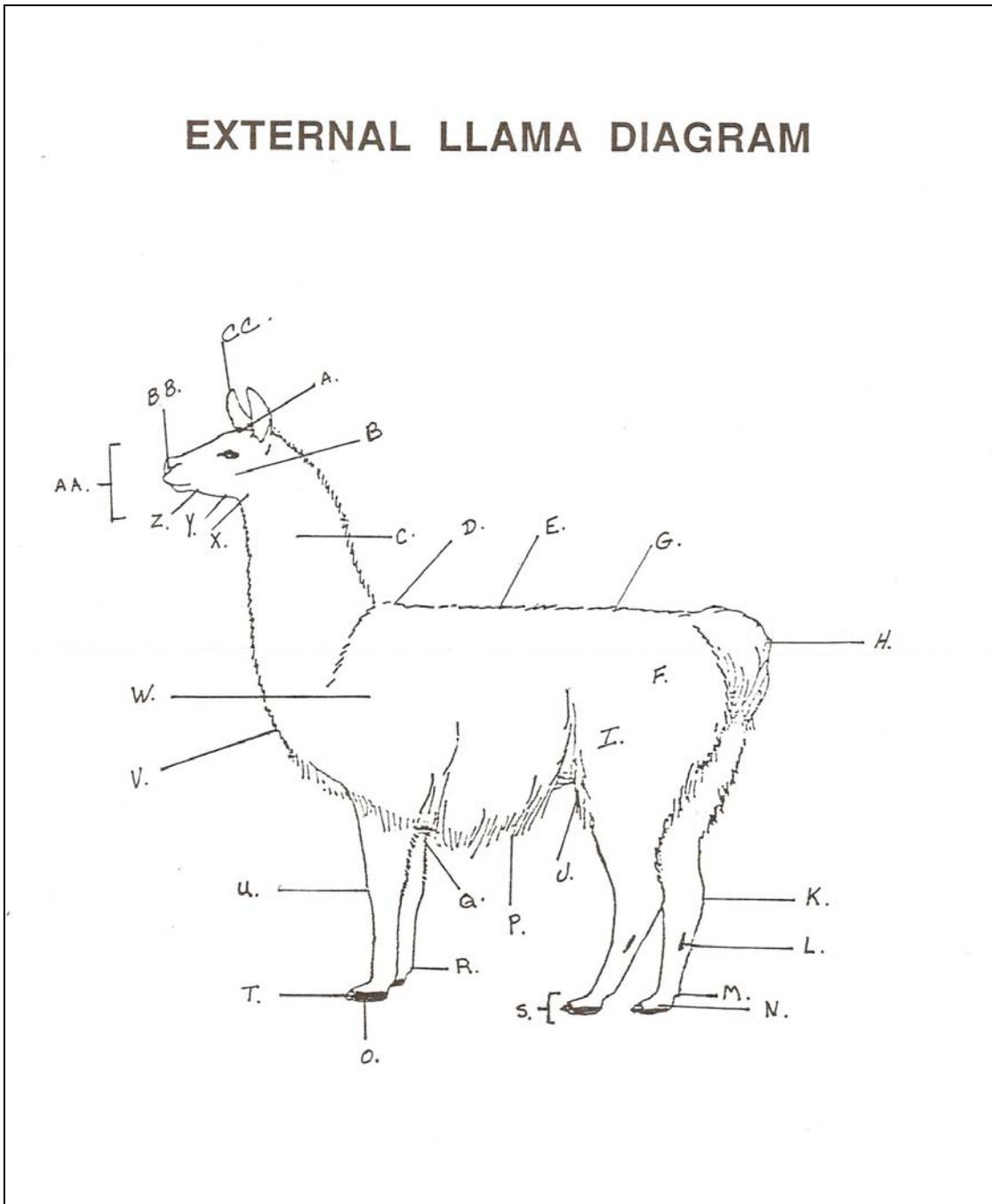
Excessively straight leg (post legged)



Excess angulation of the hock (sickle hocked)



EXTERNAL LLAMA DIAGRAM

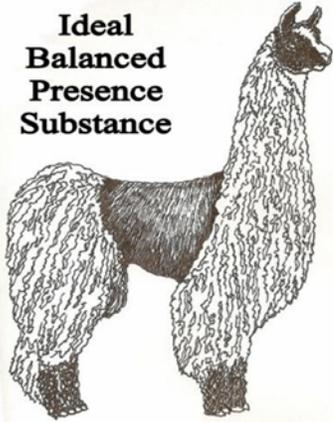


- | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|------------|----------------|
| A. Poll | F. Hip | M. Fetlock | T. Toenail |
| AA. Muzzle | G. Loin | N. Pastern | U. Knee |
| B. Cheek | H. Tail | O. Pad | (Carpus) |
| BB. Nostril | I. Thigh | P. Abdomen | V. Brisket |
| C. Neck | J. Stifle | (Belly) | W. Shoulder |
| CC. Ear | K. Hock | Q. Elbow | X. Throatlatch |
| D. Withers | L. Chestnut | R. Fetlock | Y. Jaw |
| E. Back | (Scent Gland) | S. Foot | Z. Chin |

Llama Conformation Diagram #1

Tami Lash 1/2013

**Ideal
Balanced
Presence
Substance**



Short backed



Long backed



Short necked



Short legs



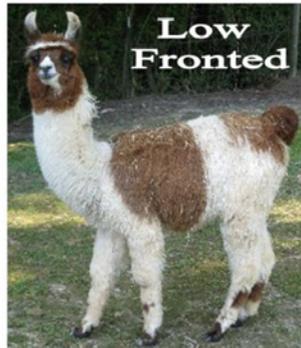
**Weak
topline**



**Ewe
Necked**



**Low
tailset**



**Low
Fronted**



**Not Balanced
Lacks Presence
Short legged
low tailset
Unattractive**

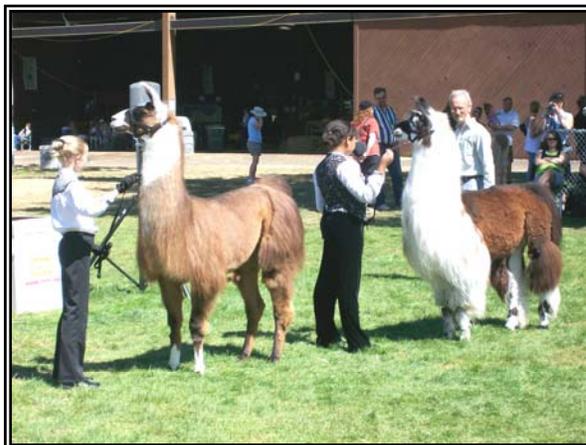
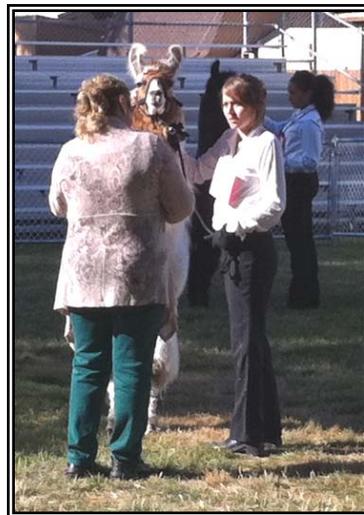
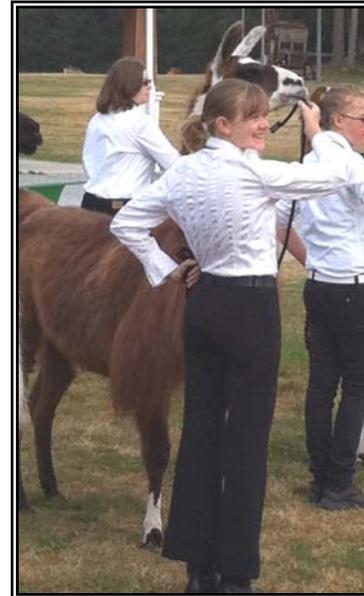
SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES

Showmanship is judged on the exhibitor's ability to show their animal. This also includes how well the exhibitor presents their animal to the judge along with the rapport between handler and animal, which includes the animal's response to the exhibitor's commands.

The handler will be judged on neatness and proper attire. The animal will be judged on if the halter fits properly, if the toenails are trimmed, and if the animal is clean and groomed. The handler should remember that while in the show ring, they should continue to show the animal to the best of their ability. Always be natural, as over showing and undue fussing will be so noted by judge.

When showing in showmanship, a handler should move the animal at a brisk walk with head up for evaluation without dragging or pulling the animal. The handler maybe asked to line up side by side or in profile. The handler should remember to have consideration for the exhibitors and animals, and act with a sportsmanlike conduct. When being judged, the handler should keep an unobstructed view between the judge and handler by moving around the animal. Quadrants are acceptable at judge's discretion (see next page). The handler may be asked to complete necessary tasks in order to give the judge the best possible view for the evaluation of the animal. The handler may also be asked to do other tasks to see how well handler and animal work together, such as haunch turns and backing.

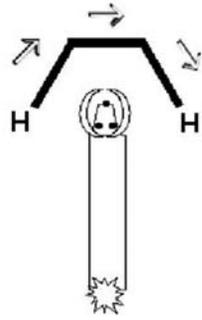
During the judging of showmanship, the judge may find it necessary to conduct tiebreaker maneuvers. These maneuvers may include switching places in line, jog or trot animal away from judge or switch handlers (not recommended for junior youth).



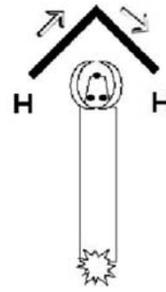
SHOWMANSHIP MOVEMENTS

**Tami Lash
3/2012**

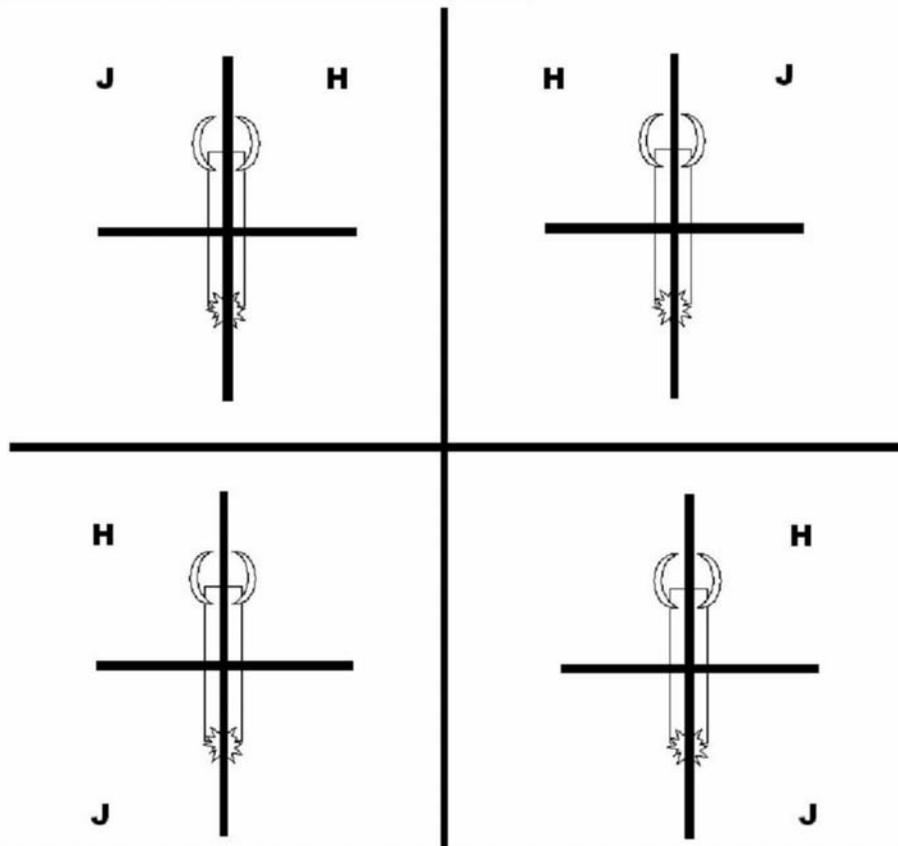
**Move
#1**



**Move
#2**



SHOWMANSHIP QUADRANTS J = JUDGE H = HANDLER



PERFORMANCE CLASSES

1) Performance Scoring Overview

- a) The important points for scoring performance is with a system that can:
 - (1) Provide a meaningful measure to level of achievement and performance.
 - (2) Reduces the potential for subjectivity and ambiguity.
 - (3) Provides for consistency regardless of judge, location or number of llamas in the class or trial and between levels of difficulty of the trials.
- b) The premise of scoring llama course/trials is to evaluate the relationship developed between handler and llama by assessing handler skill, llama manageability, trust and willingness to negotiate prescribed maneuvers, obstacles and requests from the human handler. The premise of this system of scoring is to provide a consistent measure of performance and to minimize subjective interpretation of performance.
- c) An ideal performance involves animal and handler negotiating tasks in a coordinated effortless manner with no perceptible cues from the handler. At this time verbal cues will not be considered faults. Lead rope and all other physical cues will be considered faults and graded on level of force.
- d) In these course/trials animals are being asked various expressions of moving or standing. Movement involves following or walking with a handler and directed movement where specific maneuvers may be required. Most animal faults involve level of resistance and evasion.
- e) It is the recommendation of the ILR-SD Performance Committee to allow the final scores of all course/trials to be posted after the Performance classes have been held. This is to be in agreement with both the Show Management, and the officiating Judge. At show management's discretion, the method of posting can be:
 - (1) Score sheets handed out to exhibitors.
 - (2) Score sheets laid out or posted for all to view.
 - (3) A master list of all the scores.



2) Performance Scoring Definitions and Guidelines

- a) Each task begins with a possible 10 points; points are deducted as faults occur per task.
- b) The llama with the highest score wins the class.
- c) There are two categories of faults- Handler Faults and Llama faults which consist of minor and major faults.
- d) Faults are assigned points and graded by the level of resistance or avoidance by the llama and effort required by handler to correct resistance and/or negotiate tasks. Safety fault points are rated on degree of potential danger to human and llama.
- e) Fault points will be deducted from the total possible score of 10 for each task when they occur within each task.
- f) Handler and llama should walk together freely, with llama on a loose lead. This includes all approaches and entries to tasks, leaving tasks and travel in between.
- g) A cue is defined as a signal by the handler to communicate an intention to the llama. Cues delivered by gestures or by voice will be allowed. Lead rope cues requiring the lead to go taut will be considered a fault. (Clicker and food rewards are not allowed on course)
- h) Point levels can be utilized for placement or for advancement between levels of performance.
- i) Judges will select which tasks will be used as tiebreakers within each course trial.
- j) Safety is a main concern. All contact surfaces must be treated to prevent slipping.
 - (1) The judge has the final decision on course safety, and equipment.
 - (2) The judge will walk the courses with the exhibitors, (no animals).
- k) Animals that appear to be a safety concern to the handlers or themselves can be removed at Show Management and Judge's discretion.
- l) Harshness in communication will be considered a fault.



3) Performance Scoring System

a) Whenever there is a range of point deduction, the severity of the fault determines the point deduction

b) Handler Faults

- (1) Excessive slowness of the handler can result in point deduction.
- (2) In the event slowness and stall-ups occur between tasks, points can be deducted.
- (3) Short lead- 1 point
- (4) Lead rope cues and contact cues, including a tightness of the rope- 1 point
 - (i) A lead rope cue involves a tightening of the lead followed by an instantaneous very gentle pressure applied through the lead to the llama's halter.
 - (ii) Anything beyond a gentle pressure will be considered a tug.
- (5) Dangling end of lead rope below human knee- 1 point off per task
- (6) Tugging and pulling on lead rope- 2-3 points (this turns into a refusal if animal does not cooperate)
- (7) Touching the animal to encourage, or to move animal- 2 points
- (8) Improper tying of a quick release knot- 2-5 points
 - (a) Minor Fault 1-2 point deduction
 - (i) Correct knot used, rope too long from halter to knot allowing unnecessary movement and possible harm.
 - (ii) A loose improper knot, that still unties correctly
 - (b) Major Fault 3-5 point deduction
 - (i) Improper knot that does not untie
 - (ii) Improper knot that unties from the animal resisting, rather than untying from the end of the lead.
- (9) Moving obstacles or Stepping outside of confined area - 1 point
- (10) Dangling straps, below animal knees, in pack class- 1 point (one for each task unless handler notices and fixes it)
- (11) Pack class-improper attachment and/or cinching of saddle- 3 points.
- (12) If Pack slips 3-5 points, If pack falls off -7 points
- (13) Handler incompletes - failure to rub down animal after pack removal, not closing a gate on a task, etc., and forgetting a portion of the task, these will be scored as handler incompletes.
 - (i) All incompletes are not scored with either a 1 or a 0.
 - (ii). Points should be deducted from 1-9 according to the percentage of the task not completed.

- (14) Off course- When tasks are unintentionally skipped or taken out of order.
- (i) In the event of an off course a circle with a line drawn through it determines a task was missed. This team cannot place over a team that fully completed a course trial, regardless of their score.
 - (ii) In Novice or Open classes, in the event Novice classes are not offered, Handler has the option to not attempt a task if safety or training concerns warrant, but will encounter a zero for their score.
 - (iii) The exhibitor must indicate to the judge that they will not negotiate this task and not just ignore it. This would not be considered an off course.
- (15) Short lead resulting in hand on snap- 3 points
- (i) Considered a major fault as this can result in accidentally letting the llama loose
 - (ii) This is not to be confused with a short lead in general.
- (16) Handler walking backwards over an obstacle during a task- 3 points
- (17) In the event tasks are performed in the wrong direction as detailed by the walk through, these incur a major fault. A 3-5 point deductions should be given.
- (18) Handler wrapping the lead rope around their hand- 3-5 points per task
- (19) The proper way when turning is, in turns of $\frac{1}{4}$ or less, you can bring your animal with you, in turns that result in more than $\frac{1}{4}$, the proper way is to turn into your animal. Unless specified differently in turns on a performance course, the above come into play, and if turns are not done properly can result in point deduction.
- c) Llama/Alpaca faults
- (1) Excessive slowness can result in point deduction.
 - (2) In the event slowness and stall-ups occur between tasks, points can be deducted.
 - (3) Inattentive animal- 1 point (when animal takes focus off task and handler and this results in a tug or tight lead)
 - (4) Touching task- 1 point (back through log, bush in a weave, tick on a jump, etc.)
 - (5) Evasive side stepping whether walking or negotiating an obstacle that results in tension on the lead and disturbs the flow of travel -1-3 points. (Animal should be moving in a straight line unless asked to do otherwise.)
 - (6) Stepping out of tasks where no physical danger is present-2 points per foot
 - (7) Stopping or balking- 2 points if responds to cue and continues.
 - (i) If not, animal will encounter the same 2 point deduction for each additional stop or balk.
 - (ii) If however animal plants all fours and says “NO”!, it is a Refusal, and is not to be confused with a stop or balk that when once cued, results in forward movement.

- (8) A Refusal is when the animal stops and plants all four feet and says “NO”!
- (i) This is to be scored with a large R for the score, and will not get any points for that task.
 - (i) If a second attempt is allowed, the animal may approach this task again, but must do so with a 5 point deduction, and begins this task with 5 points the second time instead of 10.
- (9) Irritated Animal- 1-3 points per each irritation
- (i) Obvious ears back only, and irritation switching of tail- 1 point
 - (ii) Ears and head back and threatening to spit- 2 points
 - (iii) Each time animal moves away from handler attempt- 2 points
 - (iv) Actual spitting and threatening with a kick- 3 point
- (10) Animal resists cue, and does not respond when asked - 3 points
- (11) Rushing- 2-5 points
- (i) Rushing ahead to enter or exit an obstacle.
 - (ii) Excessive, dangerous rushing will result in a higher deduction.
- (12) Knocking parts of a task over-3-5 points
- (13) Stepping off of ramps, bridges, etc.-3-5 points
- (i) Animal will score an incomplete for this task unless they get back on the task in the same area.
 - (ii) Animal cannot restart the task if one attempt is allowed.
- (14) Failure to complete a task, such as avoiding the exit steps, not completing a back through, and animal turns out before the end. In any event, the animals four legs do not exit at the exit point. These will be scored as incompletes.
- (i) Example: In Change of Pace - animal does not change pace.
 - (ii) Incompletes are NOT scored with either a 1 or a 0, but rather points can be deducted according to the percentage NOT completed, ie: a -1 through a -9 in the score sheet according to the percentage of the task not completed.
- (15) Animal does not negotiate the task as defined in the walk through, i.e., jumps over step-overs, steps over jumps, etc. Major fault 3-5 point deduction.



ORAL REASONS, GUIDELINES EXAMINATION, PRACTICAL QUIZ

Senior Youth will present Oral Reasons for the halter class.

Reasons are your opportunity to explain why you made your choice. They are not scored by whether or not you agree with the contest judge. They are scored based on your ability to make an organized, reasoned argument for your decision.

To give oral reasons you should:

1. Introduce the class and placing order.
2. Next state why you placed at the top animals by stating why ____ was placed over _____.
3. You can discuss pairs. Reasons should discuss the class as three sets of pairs, rather than four individual choices.
4. You can grant a positive quality to the lower placing choice in the pair.
5. Try to keep all reasons very positive.
6. Have a good finish – this is a good time to thank exhibitors for coming or to give the overall impression of the class.

Instead of presenting oral reasons, intermediate youth will complete one of five guidelines examination provided by the ILR-SD to the show management. Examinations will be completed under the supervision of show personnel.

Junior youth will individually demonstrate and/or verbally answer three of twelve questions relating to youth judging from a list provided by the ILR-SD to the show management for the practical quiz.

