

No Crying in Contests

With the National Junior Angus Show just around the corner, it's time to decide in which contests and activities to participate.

by Kasey Miller

‘T here’s no crying in baseball!’ This famous line from the movie *A League of Their Own* may not be needed at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) of the same theme in Louisville, Ky., July 15-21, 2012. Home to the Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory, Louisville offers much for baseball fans, but this summer, it will offer even more to young Angus cattle showmen and their families.

In addition to the giant national cattle show, there are many fun contests, meetings and events offered at NJAS. These activities are designed to challenge and showcase talent, prepare Angus youth for the future and provide a fun way for National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) youth to get involved. Each competition has three divisions based on the participant’s age as of Jan. 1, 2012 — junior, ages 9-13; intermediate, ages 14-17; and senior, ages 18-21. All entries must be the contestant’s own work and cannot have been entered in a previous NJAS.

The following overview presents descriptions of opportunities for youth to be involved in at this year’s NJAS. These overviews do not contain all of the rules for each contest. Please visit the new NJAA website, www.angus.org/NJAA/contests.aspx, for additional information, rules, tips and deadlines.

The All-American Certified Angus Beef® Cook-Off

Don your chef’s hat and apron, bring your beef recipes and preparation flair, and fire up the grill! The Auxiliary-sponsored All-American Certified Angus Beef® (CAB®) Cook-Off will let both juniors and adults compete to show what they can do with beef.

The event is educational, competitive and fun! Among junior teams in particular, the

Cook-Off has fostered a cooperative spirit. The Cook-Off is an excellent way to educate and entertain non-participants, while promoting the ultimate end product — CAB brand beef.

All entries in the contest require beef in the recipe. Participants will be evaluated by a panel of judges on showmanship

(presentation of the dish) and recipe (taste of the dish)

within separate competitions. Chefs will compete in categories of steaks, roasts and other beef and divisions determined by the age of the participants.

Teams may be composed of two to six members of a state junior Angus association. Each state association may enter one youth team per age group. Mixed-age-group teams are allowed, but will compete in the age division of the oldest competitor. Anyone older than 21 wanting to participate may enter the adult category or the Chef’s Challenge, as either a team or as an individual. There is no limit to teams or individuals in the adult category.

Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) will provide CAB product requested with recipes. Each individual team must provide all of the other ingredients. Also provided will be a refrigerator and grill for the beef. Any other cooking units may be used, but contestants will have to bring their own. All participants are asked to fill out the method of cooking on the recipe entry.

Contestants are encouraged to pick a theme and have some fun with it. Dress and serve with the same theme.

Showmanship, recipe and overall winners will be named for each age group in each meat competition. The Black Kettle Award, given in memory of Paul St. Blanc, will be presented to the single highest-placing team among all age groups. In addition, the Pat Grote LEAD Award will be presented to the

winning team members in the intermediate division of the steak competition.

Teams and recipes are due June 1. For more information, contact Anne Patton Schubert at 502-477-2663 or fax 502-477-2637, or Anne Lampe at alampe@wbsnet.org or 620-872-3915.

NJAA/Angus Journal Photography Contest

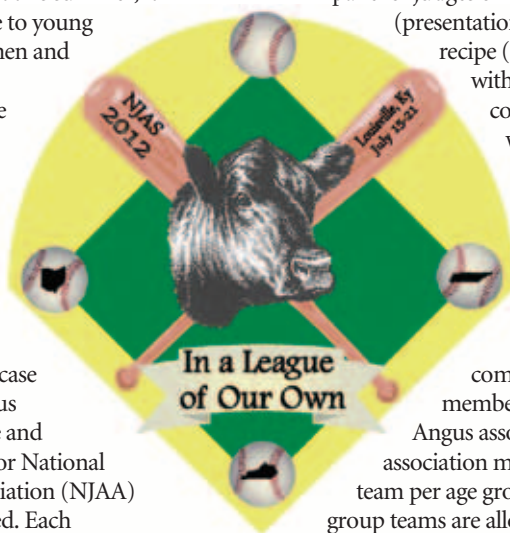
Got an eye for photography? Space permitting, the photography contest winners of each age category will be published along with other NJAS coverage in the *Angus Journal* and archived with editor’s picks as stock photos for potential later use. Winners and editor’s picks will also be showcased on the *Angus Journal* Facebook page and the Angus Productions Inc. (API) Virtual Library website, www.api-virtuallibrary.com/njaa_photo_contest.html. All entries will be displayed during the NJAS.

There are four contest categories: Angus cattle, landscapes, people, and around the farm or ranch. Contestants can enter one picture per category, with a maximum of four entries per contestant.

Once you’ve taken your photograph, you need to have it enlarged to an 8×10-inch (in.) color or black-and-white print and mount it on a 10×14-in. black foam core board. Entries should not be framed. The entry form then needs to be mounted to the back of the foam core in the upper left-hand corner. If you are sending in digital photographs, the original digital file must accompany the printed photo. For juniors who are sending in more than one entry per family, please submit only one CD/DVD per family, organizing each junior’s entries in a separate folder. Check the official rules published in the February issue of the *Angus Journal* for quality and size requirements.

Judging will be based 60% on creativity, communication power and composition of the photograph and 40% on the technical quality of the photo, such as proper light exposure, true color, sharp focus and correct cropping.

API will provide premiums for the contests. Winners in each age group will



receive \$30 for first place, \$20 for second place and \$10 for third place.

Entries must be mailed to the Junior Activities Department of the American Angus Association with a postmark no later than June 1.

Graphic design contest

If you're looking for another way to get creative, the graphic design contest allows juniors to use their computer designing skills to promote the Angus breed and activities. The 2012 Graphic Design Contest has new themes for each division. The theme for the junior division is to design a magazine advertisement to recruit members to join the NJAA. The intermediate theme is to design a magazine advertisement promoting your herd in the *Angus Journal*. The senior theme is to design a magazine advertisement promoting the Angus breed to commercial cattlemen.

The scoring for this event will be based on a 50-point scale. Ten points will be possible for each of the following categories: originality, message, ability to attract attention, and use of space and design. A panel of three judges will total their scores and rank the entries in numerical order based on their score. Judges will then compile their rankings (not scores) to determine the winners.

Prizes for the contest will be given to the top contestants in each age category. Provided by Fair Oaks Farm of Arkansas, the premiums for the contest include \$50 for first place, \$30 for second place and \$20 for third place. **Entries must be postmarked by June 1**, and mailed to the Association's Junior Activities Department.

Writing contest

The NJAA Writing Contest provides

entrants with another possible opportunity to get their work published in the *Angus Journal*. Each age division (junior, intermediate and senior) will have a different topic and word length requirement, but all entries should be typed, double-spaced and in 12-point type.

This year's junior division topic is "Describe a friendship that you have developed through the NJAA." Entries should be between 300 and 500 words. Junior entries can also be printed in ink and double-spaced.

The intermediate division topic is "How do you balance showing Angus cattle and your school-related activities?" Intermediate entries should be 600-800 words and must be typed.

The senior division topic is "How can the American Angus Association develop or improve relationships with Angus breeders overseas?" Senior entries should be 1,800-2,000 words and must be typed.

Each contestant's entry should be accompanied with a cover page and a clean disk containing the document. The cover page needs to have the junior member's name, address, phone number, birthdate, member code and word count. The contestant's name shouldn't be anywhere else on the entry.

Judging will be based on a 50-point scale and scored on grammar, spelling, organization and content. If an entry is either too long or too short, points will be deducted. Judges will then rank the contestants, similar to the judging in the graphic design contest. Prizes for each age category will be \$50 for first place, \$30 for second place and \$20 for third place. If space permits, winning entries may be published in the *Angus Journal*.

Entries must be mailed to the Junior

Activities Department and postmarked by June 1.

Poster contest

Do you have an idea that you think would improve the Angus breed or your own cattle herd? Put it on a poster where everyone can see it.

The poster contest has three categories: breed/association promotion, membership recruitment and herd advertisement. Breed promotion entries should highlight the value of Angus cattle in a successful enterprise or the benefits of active membership in an Angus association. Membership recruitment entries should focus on developing and illustrating ideas and themes to recruit new members into the NJAA and/or your own state association. Finally, herd advertisement entries should create a print advertisement suitable for promotion of your own herd or a fictitious (but realistic) herd situation.

On the back of the poster in the upper left-hand corner, contestants should put their full name, address, member code, age and the category in which the poster is being entered. Each poster must be 14x22 in. It is also suggested that each poster be laminated or covered with clear contact paper. Posters cannot have computer-generated graphics or designs; any that do will be disqualified. Please use photographs, magazine clippings, stencils and adhesive letters. Any questions as to whether an entry includes computer-generated graphics will be left to the judges' discretion.

Judging will be by a three-member panel and based on 50 points maximum. The posters will then be ranked. Prizes and cash awards will be presented to the winners in each age category. Prizes are \$30 for first place, \$20 for second place and \$10 for third

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Auxiliary-sponsored All-American CAB® Cook-Off



NJAA/Angus Journal Photography Contest

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place. A top poster will be named in each age division.

Entries should be turned in at the show, though the contestant need not attend to participate. **Posters should not be mailed to the Association office.** They may, however, be sent in with other juniors from your state. Check out page 118 of this issue for the NJAS schedule providing the deadline for submitting posters.

New video contest

New this year is the video contest. Journalism requires use of all types of media, and video is a newly accessible and useful way to get information out.

Entries should be informative and promotional. The junior's purpose is to create an entry that would be suitable for national television. This year's topic is "produce a commercial that promotes the NJAA."

Junior and intermediate division entries should be 30-60 seconds in length. Senior division entries should be 60-90 seconds in length. No professional editing will be allowed. Animated and/or computer-generated graphics will not be allowed in the video commercial. The junior member will produce (film and edit) the video.

Videos must be saved in the following formats to be accepted: QuickTime, AVI or MPEG. Videos must be submitted on a CD, USB memory stick or a portable external hard drive. Members must submit an official entry form with each video.

The scoring will be based on a 50-point scale with 10 points given for each of the following categories: originality/creativity, message, attracts attention, appealing and

organization. Judging will be by a three-member panel of judges.

Prizes will be \$50 for first place; \$30 for second place; \$20 for third place.

Prepared public speaking

Communication is incredibly important in today's society, and can mean the difference between success and failure.

The prepared public speaking contest is a little different from the other contests, as there are four age divisions: junior, ages 9-13; intermediate I, ages 14-15; intermediate II, ages 16-17; and senior, ages 18-21. There will be prizes awarded for each division.

The junior and intermediate divisions may speak on any subject about Angus cattle or the beef industry. The senior division is assigned a topic selected by the NJAA Board. This year's senior topic is "What are the advantages and disadvantages of expanding the Angus herd book to other breeds?"

Contestants must submit a title page and a typewritten, double-spaced outline of their speech on 8½×11-in. white paper to the Junior Activities Department with a postmark no later than June 10.

Speeches in the junior division should be four to six minutes in length, and the intermediate and senior speeches should be between six and eight minutes. If the contestant goes over or under the time requirement, there will be a half-point deduction for every 10 seconds in either direction. Judges will give contestants a one-minute warning at that point in their speech. After the speech, each contestant will be allowed up to five minutes to answer questions from judges.

Judges will award up to 50 points for each entry, with 20% based on organization and

content, 20% on language and delivery, 20% on presentation, 20% on total effectiveness and 20% on response to questions. Scores will then be added and ranked.

The prizes will be \$125 for first place, \$100 for second place and \$75 for third place. The senior division also has a special award sponsored by the *Angus Journal*. The top three placing seniors will receive college scholarships in the amount of \$1,000, \$750 and \$500 for first, second and third place, respectively.

Career development contest

Do you feel uncomfortable in interview settings? Do you want to perfect your interview skills for college or job interviews? Well, practice does make perfect. Contestants in the intermediate and senior divisions of the career development contest can gain interview experience. Students submit a job for which they are "applying" in the interview and submit their professional résumé. The résumé will be judged on content, creativity and design, organization, style and grammar, and overall effectiveness. The interview will be judged on their selling point, response to questions, language and communication, appearance and total effectiveness. **Job descriptions and résumés are due in the office by June 10 (postmark date).**

Extemporaneous public speaking

The extemporaneous speaking contest allows members to show their industry knowledge on the spot. The age divisions are the same as for prepared public speaking, but participants do not find out their topic until the contest begins.

Participants will draw three speech topics,



Career development contest



Prepared public speaking

selected at random, relating to the agriculture industry and/or the Angus breed, and then choose the topic they would like to address. Junior division contestants will then have 20 minutes to prepare, while the intermediate and senior contestants get 30 minutes. Five reference materials will be allowed, but must be approved by the NJAA Board.

Each speech must be at least two minutes and no longer than six. After the speech, the judges will have three minutes to ask questions. Participants are penalized the same way they are in the prepared speech contest if they are over or under the time limit. After questions, each contestant will be evaluated and ranked.

Winners will receive \$75 for first place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place. The senior division winner will receive an award from the American Angus Auxiliary presented in the name of Richard "Dick" Spader, and the winners of the two intermediate divisions will receive an award in the name of Pat Grote.

Team sales

The team sales competition will put members in a situation where communication, teamwork and marketing are all essential to sell their animal to the judges. It's important that pedigree information, performance information and visual characteristics be discussed during the competition.

Each state may enter only one team in each of three age categories, including 9-13; 14-17; and 18-21. Teammates of differing age groups may compete together but will be entered according to the age group of the oldest member. It is important to have your team selected early because teams must sign

Mentor-Protégé program

The National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) Mentoring Program is an opportunity for junior Angus members to utilize their experience at the NJAS to assist first-time exhibitors at this event.



Mentors should be junior members 14 years or older who have attended at least two previous NJAS. Mentors must have time to check on their protégés at least once a day during the event.

Protégés can be first- or second-time exhibitors at the NJAS who indicate they would like to have a mentor for the week.

There is a box on the entry forms to check if you would like to be a mentor or a protégé. Pairings will be assigned prior to the event and revealed at check-in. The Mentoring Mixer is currently scheduled for 2:15 p.m. Monday, July 16.

up during the registration period.

The senior division will be given a complete scenario the day of the registration. From there the team must select its own animal and provide a pedigree to match the scenario. It doesn't have to be the pedigree of the animal, but it does need to match the situation.

All teams need to select a bull, heifer or cow-calf pair (for seniors, this depends on the scenario) that is clean — not groomed. There will be no show halters or grooming supplies allowed into the competition area. It is also very important to bring three copies of the registration certificate with you. Points will be deducted if there are not three copies.

Each team is allowed to bring in a sales package of performance data, pictures and show records for each judge. They will then have five to eight minutes to present to the judges, with each team member expected to speak during the presentation. Anything above or below the time limit will be

penalized. Judges will not interrupt during the presentation but will have three minutes to ask questions following the presentation's conclusion.

There is a 50-point maximum, with 10 points each available for content, ability to communicate, team organization, overall effect, and knowledge and response to questions. Winning teams will receive the following premiums for their state junior associations: \$75 for first, \$50 for second and \$25 for third place. The team winning the senior division also captures the Bob Laflin Memorial Award.

Team fitting

Team fitting requires members to work together with different ages to groom their animal. The contest requires four contestants — one from the junior, intermediate and senior divisions, and an additional team member from any of the three divisions.

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Quiz bowl



Team fitting

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Each state association may enter only one team. Teams must be signed up at registration, so have yours picked early.

The teams will be responsible for providing their own fitting equipment, and a bull, heifer or steer that should be washed and dried — but not groomed. Teams in Heat 1 will be required to provide chutes to be used in all heats. Once the contest begins, no team member may leave the area and no additional supplies may be brought into the fitting area.

Teams will have 30 minutes to fit their animal. During that time, each team member must fit a leg, use the clippers and the blower. All fitting and grooming techniques must be within accepted practices for American Angus Association-sponsored shows. At the end of 20 minutes, contestants will stand at the head of their animal until the judges get to them. Judges will likely ask one question per team member.

The judges award points as follows: ability to fit, 25 points; organization of supplies and equipment, five points; participation of each team member, 10 points; overall effect, five points; and knowledge and response to questions, five points. Judges will then rank teams based on scores. The state junior associations of the winning teams will receive premiums of \$75 for first place, \$50 for second and \$25 for third.

Quiz bowl

The quiz bowl competition will test junior members' knowledge with written and verbal questions. Teams, divided by age division, will consist of four members. The age classification for the team will be determined by the age of the oldest team member, and states may sign up as many teams as they

desire. Multiple-state teams may enter, but state teams must be filled before individuals are permitted to participate in a multi-state team. Mixed state teams are not eligible for sweepstake points.

The two-part contest begins with the written round. There are 50 questions on each test, plus five bonus questions that are only used to break ties. During the contest, only team members are allowed in the testing area, and they are not allowed to collaborate. If a contestant is caught cheating at any point in the competition, they — along with their team — will be disqualified.

The top eight teams in each age division will then advance to the verbal round. The verbal round is a single-elimination tournament that draws teams randomly. The verbal round is divided into two sections. The first section is a one-on-one round, where team members go head-to-head against other participants from other teams. The quizmaster will ask one question, and only team member 1 for each team may answer. On the next question, only team member 2 for each team may answer and so on until each team member has been asked a total of two questions.

The second section of the verbal round consists of 10 toss-up questions worth 10 points each. Any team member may answer, but they must buzz in. If a question is correctly answered, the team is awarded 10 points and gets a chance at a bonus question worth a maximum of 10 points; if the answer to the initial question is incorrect, the other team will have an opportunity to answer. At the conclusion of the match, a 25-point bonus will be awarded if all four team members have answered questions correctly.

The team that makes it through the

bracket wins. Winners will be selected in all three age categories, and state associations will receive premiums of \$75 for first place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place.

Scrapbook

Any state or regional junior Angus association may enter a scrapbook into the competition. The scrapbook's cover should incorporate the association's name and be creative. There should also be a theme that is carried throughout the book.

Scrapbooks must be created by the state's current junior association members. The book should begin with a title page, followed by a contents page. The rest of the pages should be numbered and include in any order: junior officers, representatives, members and advisors; meetings and activities; shows, displays, games, parties and work sessions; communications such as newsletters; and honors won by members throughout the year.

Each category should be arranged in a calendar sequence, oldest to most recent, starting with July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012. Scrapbooks will be judged on content, organization, neatness, effectiveness of layout and general effect. For a complete list of items considered by the scrapbook judges, please look at the official rules found at www.njaa.info/contests/scrapbook_rules.pdf. Winning entries will receive \$50 for first place; \$40 for second; \$30 for third; \$20 for fourth and \$10 for fifth.

Coloring session

New this year for youth ages 9 and under is the coloring session. Pictures of cattle, barns, tractors, etc., will be available for those



Showmanship contest



Poster contest and scrapbook

who are too young to show but who still want to participate in the NJAS. It's a great way to build friendships within the NJAA.

State herdsmanship

The herdsmanship contest is the ultimate test in teamwork. It requires you to work with each 'team' member of your state. The contest is divided into four categories: 46 head or more, 31 to 45 head, 16 to 30, and those with 15 or fewer head.

The scoring is based on the following:

- ▶30% aisle and bedding — cleanliness, general appearance;
- ▶30% animals — clean, groomed, general appearance;
- ▶10% equipment appearance — attractive, well-arranged, general appearance;
- ▶20% youth tending cattle — neat, knowledgeable, friendly, teamwork and enthusiasm; and
- ▶10% promotion of state, association, Angus or beef — general appearance.

Awards are given to the top five in all divisions and are \$125 for first place; \$100 for second place; \$75 for third; \$50 for fourth and \$25 for fifth.

Showmanship

The first National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest was conducted at Keeneland Race Course in Lexington, Ky., in conjunction with the 1967 American Angus Breeders' Futurity. Since 1974, the contest has been moved to coincide with the NJAS, but the idea is still the same — the best showmen in the country compete for the title of "Champion Angus Showman." The showmanship contest is designed to discover

the best of the best in the showing. It's also an opportunity for younger members to watch and learn from the best junior showmen in the country.

The showmanship competition is limited to the top two contestants from each state or province. **Entries need to be submitted by the state association to the Junior Activities Department at the Association no later than June 1.** It should also be mentioned that any contestant who has ever participated in previous NJAS showmanship competitions is not eligible.

Contestants will use heifers provided by exhibitors at the NJAS. Heifers are to be groomed by the owner, not the contestant. Contestants will then draw for the animal they will show. Preliminary rounds will not exceed 15 contestants in any one class. Contestants are required to wear a white collared shirt, black or dark blue pants, and a show harness.

Judges will be looking at skill, handling and response of the animal to the contestant, use of the equipment by contestant, general appearance of the contestant, showing courtesy and sportsmanship, and the ability to follow instructions during the contest.

The top five winners of the contest will receive a silver Revere bowl. Premiums will be awarded as \$350 for first place, \$250 for second place, \$175 for third, \$125 for fourth, \$100 for fifth, and \$75 for sixth and remaining placing. The top showman will be presented the Dean Hurlbut award and the Jake White Award.

Sweepstakes

The NJAA Sweepstakes Contest was introduced at the 1992 NJAS in Columbus, Ohio. This contest is designed to reward state

Contest Deadlines

The All-American *Certified Angus Beef*[®] Cook-Off — June 1

Career Development Contest — June 10

Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest — July 16

Graphic Design Contest — June 1

Photography Contest — June 1

Poster Contest — July 16, by noon

Public Speaking Contest — June 10

Quiz Bowl — July 16

Scrapbook Contest — July 16

Team Fitting Competition — July 16

Team Sales Rules — July 16

Video Contest — June 1

Writing Contest — June 1

junior associations for their members' participation in the various contests, exhibition of cattle and the showmanship contest during the NJAS. The overall sweepstakes contest is divided into two divisions based on number of head — those with fewer than 30 head checked in, and those with more than 30 head checked in. Points will be given based on the placings of the individuals or teams that have participated. Points are given for the highest-placing individual, team or animal from each state in various contest categories. Visit www.njaa.info/njaa_contests.html for sweepstakes points awarded in each contest.



Team sales



Good luck in Kentucky.