

2017 Asotin County 4-H/FFA Goat Judge Expectations

Mark Addington, Walla Walla, WA

Conformation Judging is the same for any type of goat. I will be comparing your animal to the “ideal” for its breed or function. An outstanding goat has more traits closer to “ideal” than others in its class. In a market class, I look for an animal that is structurally correct, with volume and body capacity (length, depth and width), muscling and condition. Quality market goats must have suitable size with good growth rates and maximum meat yields. I also look for “balanced” animals, well muscled over the loin, shoulders, hindquarters and neck. The finish or condition should not be excessive - not too much “fat”.

Dairy animals are judged on their general appearance, mammary system, dairy character, and body capacity. Pygmy goats are judged similar to dairy animals, but with focus on their breed standards and characteristics, looking again at the “ideal” animal. Refer to ADGA, APGA, ABGA, USBGA, and other sources to teach you more about the “ideals”. Knowing the strong points of your goat will help you in fit and show!

Fitting and Showing

I will have the opportunity to meet with all of the Asotin County Fair goat exhibitors for a question and answer session before the start of the conformation classes on Friday of the fair. My goals as a goat judge are to:

- 1) Help make sure that each of the goat exhibitors has fun and a positive learning experience exhibiting their goat projects at the Asotin County Fair.
- 2) I would like each and every goat exhibitor to learn at least 2 to 3 new things about their goat projects and showing goats as a result of our time in the show arena. I will ask lots of questions and be very interactive with you during both the conformation classes on Friday, and during Fitting and Showing on Saturday.

Below is a list of Useful Resources that you may want to review beforehand that was put together by my judging colleague Patty Gylling of Cle Elum, WA.

Useful Resources:

ADGA Dairy Goat Score Card and ADGA Dairy Goat Showmanship Score Card

Boer goats websites and links, i.e., USBGA, ABGA and related sites and handbooks

Pygmies: APGA website and links

Texas Agricultural Extension Service AS 3-4.060 10/98 (4-H Meat Goat Guide)

Current WSU Extension goat publications