

Judging Expectations for Cats

Quality-

Cats are judged on their cleanliness and grooming. Nails should be clipped. They are judged as a pet so disposition is important. It is understood that most cats that are in an unfamiliar environment around unfamiliar cats are likely to be uptight. I expect to see a fair amount of nervous behavior. I will evaluate the cats for quality right after each person does showmanship to minimize the amount of handling the cat will have to go through.

Showmanship-

Please dress appropriately. Long sleeves should be worn. Have hair pulled back and no jewelry. Your cat should be on a harness and lead that is properly fitted for your cat. When you bring your animal to the table please introduce yourself and your cat by telling me your name, how long you have been in the cat project, and your cat's name and age. I will then have you go through showing me your cat. Explain what you are showing me and what you would be checking for. When you are done let your cat relax and I will ask you a few questions. These questions can cover anatomy, health, terminology and care. It is fine to answer that you do not know the answer. Once you have provided your answer I will let you know if you are correct and if not I will provide you with the correct answer. The questions will probably be a bit challenging. Do not worry about this. My goal is for you to learn. I am looking at how you handle the situation. When I am done with questions I will have you give me your cat to do the quality evaluation.

Please remain calm if your cat is very upset. I will help you work through things and if the animal is unable to be handled safely I will have him placed back in his cage. We will then proceed. I will have you go through the parts of the cat that you would have shown me and explain what you would be checking for. We just won't have the animal there. Just because a cat worked well last year does not guarantee that it will be fine this year. We are more concerned with your safety so you will be able to complete showmanship and still compete even if your cat does not cooperate.