



National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (England & Wales)

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Guidelines on Stockjudging - Positive Reason Giving

Some time ago NFYFC received an approach from the Holstein Society with regard to Reason Giving in the Dairy Stockjudging competitions. They were requesting that NFYFC consider altering their format of reason giving from a **negative** comparison to a **positive** comparison.

It is fact that, in the show rings of today, the judges are requested to give reasons in this positive manner. The Holstein Young Members' Association are trained to give their reasons in this positive manner which is borne out by the receipt of letters from trainers and County Federations requesting that we change to this method.

It was decided that YFC should look forward on this issue, as today's members are tomorrow's Society judges, and to introduce this type of reason giving into the YFC stockjudging competition.

EXAMPLES OF POSITIVE REASON GIVING

1. I placed **A** over **B** for its superior stature and dairyness throughout. **A** being stronger in the topline than **B**. **A** also having a tighter udder attachment than **B**. **A** paraded well on correctly set legs and displayed a superior depth of heel than my second placed **B**.

Placing **B** over **X** for its superior and greater spring of rib than **X**, and also for its superior fore-teat placement and udder texture. **B** being flatter in the bone through the legs than my third animal **X**.

Placing **X** over **Y**, having the advantage of greater stature and smoothness of topline. **X** being stronger in the fore-attachment and strength of suspensory ligament over **Y** and **X** also having the edge over **Y** for its correctness of set of leg and depth of heel.

2. I place this class of 4 dairy cows **A, B, X, Y**. The top three cows are outstanding examples of the modern-day functional dairy cow.

I placed **A** over **B** on dairyness, she is longer and cleaner about the head, neck and body with a definite advantage in strength of loin and is smoother attached of her fore udder.

Placing **B** over **X** has an advantage in body capacity and strength. **B** is wider in the chest floor, fuller in the fore rib with a more desirable set of rear legs.

Placing **X** over **Y** is an easy placing, **X** having a stronger topline and higher, stronger rear udder attachment.

Competitions Department

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