A. Appearance of Lamb

1. Cleanliness ................................................................. 10
   a. Wool, if present, should be clean and free of foreign matter.
   b. Flanks, face, nose, ears, feet, and legs clean.
   c. Wool should be dry on breeding ewes.
   d. Slick shorn animals should not be wet.

2. Shearing/Trimming/Fitting ........................................... 10
   a. Market lambs and commercial ewes are slick shorn.
   b. Registered breeding ewes, classified as meat breeds, should be slick shorn.
   c. Registered breeding ewes, classified as wool breeds, should be trimmed to an appropriate, uniform fleece length for the breed being exhibited.
   d. Ultimately, the final decision regarding trimming or fitting is left to individual show management.
   e. Feet should be trimmed so that lamb/ewe walks and stands natural and correct.

B. Showing

1. Presentation and Changing Positions ................................. 35
   a. A lamb should be well presented at all times, but showman should not engage in undue fussing or maneuvering. The lamb should always be positioned between the showman and judge on a profile/side-view/head-to-tail presentation.
   b. A lamb should show evidence of training as indicated by responsiveness to handling.
   c. A lamb should be shown from the front, slightly off to one side when the judge is viewing it from the rear.
   d. Exhibitor should step to the lamb's side just behind its shoulder, stand straight, and face the judge while holding the head up when the judge is inspecting the front end of the lamb. Ears should be positioned in a way that reflects the breed characteristics of the animal.
   e. Exhibitors should always stand when showing sheep.
   f. A lamb should be led with one hand under the jaw, and the other hand behind the head to maintain control. One hand on each side of the face is also acceptable.
   g. Each exhibitor should maintain proper distance when on the move and when standing to allow other exhibitors enough space to show their animals. Exhibitors should be courteous to other exhibitors and their lambs at all times.
   h. When a lamb is not visible to the judge in a particularly large class, it is permissible and encouraged to allow the lamb to relax in position.
   i. An exhibitor is expected to brace the lamb when the judge handles it. Lifting a lamb is acceptable to set the lamb's feet and at the beginning of a bracing period. However, the front feet should remain on the ground when the judge is handling or closely inspecting the lamb.
2. Cooperation with Judge

a. Be aware of the judge’s location, and maintain that awareness until the class is completed.

b. The exhibitor must stay in position to effectively and efficiently show and move the lamb. It is the exhibitor’s responsibility not to obstruct the judge’s view of the lamb at any time.

c. A judge often places animals from the profile/side-view/head-to-tail position. As open spaces occur, the exhibitor should move forward in line without waiting to be told. If the judge is evaluating their animal, the exhibitor may delay in this movement until the judge has completed the evaluation or requests the lamb be moved forward.

d. Lambs should be maneuvered into position as requested by the judge, smoothly without a lot of excess movement.

C. Appearance and Merits of Exhibitor

1. Appearance

a. The exhibitor should be well groomed and clothes clean and neat.

b. Extremes in fit or anything revealing is not appropriate. Full-length jeans that fit appropriately should be worn.

c. An official shirt provided by show management is considered appropriate.

d. No headgear should be worn in class; however, a cap is acceptable under certain circumstances.

e. The exhibitor should not chew gum while showing.

2. Merits

a. Brings lamb into ring promptly.

b. Responsiveness to judge’s and ringmaster’s requests.

c. Works quickly but not abruptly.

d. Recognizes and corrects faults of animal’s position efficiently.

e. Not distracted by persons and things outside of show ring.

f. Shows animal, not self.

g. Does not leave ring until released by ring official.

h. Displays a courteous and sportsmanlike attitude.

i. Prepared to give answers about the animal and to answer basic questions related to the 4-H sheep project.

j. When asked by the ringmaster or judge to move an animal to a new position, priority is to get to that position and set up the lamb in an efficient manner.

k. Beginning exhibitors may use a halter if it is required to maintain control of the animal. If a halter is needed, the lead rope should be very short.

D. Following Are Severely Discriminated Against and May Be Grounds for Disqualification

a. Unsportsmanlike conduct.

b. Hitting or slapping an animal.

c. Looking outside the ring to gain assistance in correctly positioning the lamb.

d. Artificial coloring, powder, or adhesives used on any part of the animal.

e. Lifting a lamb off of the ground or holding it in a manner that would cause a choking effect.

f. Maintaining the front feet off of the ground during a bracing period.