

SHOWING CATTLE

1. YOU HAVE CHOSEN YOUR BEST ANIMAL FOR THE SHOW FOR ALL THE RIGHT REASONS:

- A) CONFIRMATION
- B) TEMPERAMENT - JUDGE MUST BE ABLE TO TOUCH THE ANIMAL EVERYWHERE
- C) CONDITION

2. PREPARE THE ANIMAL FOR THE SHOW

A) FEED

- GET ADVICE FOR QUALITY SHOW FEEDS TO GET THE MAXIMUM NUTRITION REQUIRED TO GET THE ANIMAL TO SHOW CONDITION
- TARGET AN OPTIMUM WEIGHT

B) HANDLING

- YOUR ANIMAL MUST BE TAME AND TOTALLY BIDDABLE ON A HALTER
- MUST BE ABLE TO TOUCH IT EVERYWHERE - SOME JUDGES WILL INSIST ON FEELING A BULL'S TESTICLES.
- BAD BEHAVIOUR CAN RESULT IN EXPULSION

C) SHOW BOX - ADVERTISING

3. WHAT TO TAKE TO THE SHOW

- A) MAKE A LIST OF THINGS TO TAKE
- B) HARD FEED
- C) SHOW GEAR - NEW WHITE COATS AND HALTERS; BULLS AND COWS SHOULD HAVE 16MM ROPE AND CALVES 12MM ROPE
- D) SHOW STICK
- E) WET WEATHER GEAR
- F) SHOW BOX - SHOULD HAVE BODY BRUSH, WATER WIPER, SHAMPOO AND STAIN REMOVER, HOOF OIL AND SCISSORS TO TRIM, COTTON WOOL FOR CLEANING EYES AND EARS
- G) STABLE HEADCOLLAR FOR SECURING YOUR ANIMAL WHILE PREPARING

4. HANDLER

- A) MUST BE THE SAME PERSON WHO HAS TRAINED THE ANIMAL
- B) CLEAN & IRONED WHITE EXHIBITOR COAT
- C) SHOULD HAVE HARD SHOES
- D) HAT - NOT COVERING FACE

5 **NUMBER**

- A) NUMBER SHOULD BE VISIBLE TO THE JUDGE AT ALL TIMES
- B) LEAD ON THE LEFT OF THE ANIMAL
- C) WHEN STOPPED STAND IN FRONT OF THE ANIMAL

6. **AT THE SHOWGROUND**

FEED: THE FEED MUST BE **EXACTLY** THE SAME AT THE SHOW AS WAS GIVEN AT HOME - HARD FEED AND HAY (DON'T RELY ON SHOWGROUND FEED) - WATER AND FEED BUCKETS MUST BE THE SAME

- 2 WEEKS BEFORE SHOW START FEEDING IN SHOW BUCKETS AND CUT DOWN FEED 2 DAYS BEFORE TRAVELLING AND FEED MORE HAY

IT IS NOT UNUSUAL FOR THE ANIMAL TO GO OFF THEIR FOOD AT THE SHOW:

- DON'T BOTHER IT WHILE IT IS EATING
- ARE THE NEIGHBOURS BULLYING?
- ROPE LONG ENOUGH?
- LACK OF EXERCISE?
- THIRSTY?
- FOOD BUCKET SHOULD BE REMOVED 30 MINS AFTER FEEDING AND TOTALLY WASHED OUT.
- GRAIN AND CONCENTRATE BEFORE HAY

SHOW DAY

- A) BE READY WELL IN ADVANCE OF YOUR CLASS
 - CHECK THE CLASS TIME
 - IN THE RING IT IS UP TO THE HANDLER TO SHOW OFF THE ANIMAL TO ITS BEST ADVANTAGE
 - THE HANDLER MUST BE ALERT AT ALL TIMES CHECKING THE ANIMAL IS MOVING IN AN ACTIVE HEALTHY WAY THAT ATTRACTS THE JUDGE'S ATTENTION. THE JUDGE IS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING SPECIAL ALL THE TIME
 - HOLD THE HEAD OF THE ANIMAL AS HIGH AS YOU CAN, MAKE IT WALK AS FAST AS IT CAN.
 - THE HANDLER MUST ALSO LOOK AT THE JUDGE
 - NEVER TALK TO A FELLOW EXHIBITORS OR SUPPORTERS IN THE CROWD
 - IF THE JUDGE STOPS THE RING, TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO STAND IN FRONT OF THE ANIMAL, HOLD ITS HEAD UP AND ALLOW THE JUDGE TO VIEW THE WHOLE ANIMAL.
 - USE YOUR SHOW STICK TO MAKE YOUR ANIMAL STAND PROPERLY WITH A DEAD STRAIGHT BACK - NOT SPLAYED
 - DON'T BE TEMPTED TO JAB AT THE FEET INCESSANTLY
 - IF THE JUDGE CHOOSES TO LOOK CLOSER AT YOUR ANIMAL, SMILE AND ALLOW HIM TO DO SO
 - NEVER RELAX OR LOOK BORED

AS A JUDGE IT IS VERY ANNOYING IF HE OR SHE IS UNABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH A HANDLER, MAKE SURE THE HANDLER UNDERSTANDS WHAT THE JUDGE MAY ASK HIM TO DO - STOP MOVE BACK, MOVE FORWARDS, SLOW DOWN

IF YOUR ANIMAL IS NAUGHTY, JUST TURN ITS HEAD AROUND YOUR BODY AND TURN A TIGHT CIRCLE TO GO BACK INTO THE LINE.

DON'T CROWD THE ANIMAL IN FRONT AND DON'T ALLOW ANOTHER EXHIBITOR TO BLOCK YOUR ANIMAL FROM THE JUDGE'S VIEW