Market Goat Showmanship
Quick Tips for Showmanship

IN THE RING

• Enter the ring on time.
• When lining up leave plenty of room between you and the exhibitor next to you.
• ALWAYS keep your goat between you and the judge.
• Be alert at all times.
  - Keep one eye on the judge and one eye on your goat at all times.
• Be courteous and respectful to other exhibitors.
• Pay attention to the instructions the ring man or judge gives to you.
• Be calm, patient, and have fun!
• Always shake hands and congratulate the class winner.
• Be prepared to answer the judges questions.
  - A list of sample questions is provided. Familiarize yourself with the answers!

LEADING WITH A COLLAR

• The exhibitor should walk on the opposite side of where the judge is standing, keeping the goat between him or her and the judge.
• The right hand should be holding the collar.
• The opposite hand should apply gentle but firm pressure at the back of the head.
• Walk slowly and smoothly, keeping a nice, constant speed.
• If the goat resists walking, place your hand on the goat’s dock to encourage it to move forward.

SETTING UP A GOAT

• Keep control of your goat with one hand under the jaw or with the collar.
• Use the other hand to set the goat’s feet.
  - Always set the rear legs first and then move to the front legs.
• Pick up the leg and set it down in one smooth motion.
  - The goat will fight less if you pick up the leg above the knee or hock.
• When the goat is set, have it stand with its head and neck high and ears pointing up and forward.

BRACING A GOAT

• Stand in front of the goat.
• Hold it securely.
• Place its nose pointing level.
• Gently push back on the goat with your knee placed in the goat’s breast and shoulder area.
• Lightly brace your goat while you are in the show ring except for when:
  - you are leading your goat.
  - the judge comes to look at the front of your animal.
• When the judge comes to handle your goat, apply pressure on your goat to get the hardest brace possible.
• Never pull up on the goat’s neck with your hands.
  - Instead, use your inner thigh to control the animal.
• Keep all four legs on the ground.
1. What breed is your goat?
2. What is the exercise program for your goat?
3. How much does your goat weigh?
4. When was your goat born?
5. How old is your goat?
6. What do you feed your goat?
7. How much do you feed your goat?
8. What is the percent of crude protein in your feed ration?
9. What would you like to change about your goat?
10. Name two goat by-products.
11. How many pounds of feed must be fed for 1 pound of gain?
12. What is the health program for your goat?
13. Is your goat a ewe or whether?
14. What would you change about your goat?
15. What is the best feature of your goat?
16. What are some different meat breeds of goats?
17. How much should a market goat weigh?
18. What is the gestational length of a goat?
19. What is the average amount of back fat on a goat?
20. What are the main cuts of a goat?
Walking

Presenting

Driving