4-H BEEF SHOWMANSHIP

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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 steer between you and the judge.
- To turn your steer:
  - Push the steer in away from you, never pull the steer toward you.
  - Slowly move the steer and make sure you are in a wide enough area so he can turn.
- Be alert at all times.
  - Keep one eye on the judge and one eye on your steer 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 YOUR STEER**
- The exhibitor should walk on the left side of the steer, even if the judge is on your left side.
- The right hand should be holding the steer’s head up with the halter.
- The left hand should be holding the show stick out vertical as to not hit other steer or exhibitors or get caught on the fence.
- Walk slowly and smoothly, keeping a nice, constant speed.
- If the steer resists walking, gently tug on the halter without getting in front of your steer or letting his head lower. A ring steward or the exhibitor behind you can twist your steer’s tail.

**SETTING UP A STEER**
- Keep control of your steer by raising his head up high.
- Use the other hand to set the steer’s feet with the show stick.
  - Always set the rear legs first and then move to the front legs.
  - Use the end of the show stick to apply pressure in between the toes or behind the toes to move the foot.
- When the steer is set, have it stand with its head and neck high and face your steer while watching the judge and using your show stick to scratch the steer’s belly.
Common Showmanship Questions

1. What breed is your steer?
2. What is the exercise program for your steer?
3. How much does your steer weigh?
4. When was your steer born?
5. How old is your steer?
6. What do you feed your steer?
7. How much do you feed your steer?
8. What is the percent of crude protein in your feed ration?
9. What would you like to change about your steer?
10. Name two steer by-products.
11. How many pounds of feed must be fed for 1 pound of gain?
12. What is the health program for your steer?
13. What is the best feature of your steer?
14. What are some different meat breeds of steers?
15. How much should a market steer weigh?
16. What is the average amount of back fat on a steer?
17. What are the main cuts of a steer?