

# 2024 Beef Skill-a-thon Study Guide

## 1. **Meats**

There are a total of 8 retail cuts and 9 wholesale cuts. Resource book Chapter 8 & CP14-19

- Beginners – Identify meat cuts; identify wholesale cuts (4-H member picks)
- Intermediate - Identify meat cuts; identify wholesale cuts. (Random pick.)
- Advanced – Identify meat cuts; identify wholesale cuts. (Random pick.)

## 2. **Breeds**

There are a total of 12 breeds & descriptions. Resource book pages CP1-5 & pages 2-4 to 2-9

- Beginners- Identify Breeds. (member picks.)
- Intermediate – Identify Breeds & descriptions; (Random pick.)
- Advanced – Identify breeds and descriptions (Random pick.)

## 3. **Parts**

There are a total of 31 parts. Resource book page 2-2

- Beginner – Intermediate – Advanced – (Random pick.)

## 4. **Leg Structure**

There are a total of 10 parts. Resource book page 2-12

- Beginner – (Member picks)
- Intermediate and Advanced – (Random pick.)

## 5. **Halter Tie and Equipment**

*All must be able to put a halter on and tie. List of possible equipment attached.*

- Beginner – Must identify pieces of equipment (member picks)
- Intermediate and Advanced – Must identify and give use of pieces (judge picks)

## 6. **Nutrition**

Resource book pages CP8 - 13

\*\*See list of feeds

- Beginner – Identify feeds – (Member picks out.)
- Intermediate — identify feeds—must also name nutrient group (member picks)
- Advanced – Identify feeds— must also name the nutrient group and function of the nutrient group – (Random pick.)

## 7. **Digestive System**

Resource book pages 7-1 to 7-6

- Beginner -must label parts of the digestive system. (Member picks)
- Intermediate—name parts of the digestive system (Random pick.)
- Advanced—must identify parts of the digestive system and explain the function of each. (Random pick.)

## **8. Flight Zone/ Safe Animal Handling**

Resource book pages 4-2 to 4-4

- Beginner -must label parts of the flight zone
- Intermediate and Advanced—must identify parts of the diagram and move the animal correctly to load

## **9. Medication Label/Insert**

Resource book page 12-10 to 12-11

- Beginner- (Member picks)
- Intermediate and Advanced – (Random pick.)

## **10. Skeletal System**

There are a total of 41 parts. Resource book page 2-3

**Beginner** - Ribs, Hip Joint, Femur, Orbit, Phalanges, Mandible, Tibia, Metatarsus, Radius, Humerus

- Intermediate – (Member picks)
- Advanced – (Random pick.)

## **11. Interview**

Questions will be asked based on level. All questions come from the Beef Resource book.

## **12. Project book**

All books must be complete according to the beef page requirements – available online and attached. Books must also be signed by an advisor. Must have signed Market Animal Project Guidelines & Expectations stapled to the front cover of the Project book. Points will be deducted for incomplete books and unsigned books. Most points allowed to be deducted is 5.

*\*\*\*\* Please note that we do not know from year to year how many things you need to know at each station. It will vary each year based on the number of stations and points needed to get to 100 points.*

## **PROJECT LEVELS ALIGN WITH SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES**

### **Project levels:**

**Beginner** – First year in 4-H or first year taking steer (if you took a turkey last year you will be a beginner but if you took a feeder/dairy steer/dairy beef last year, you would be in your age bracket) or ages 9 -11 (as of January 1<sup>st</sup>)

**Intermediate** – ages 12- 15 (as of January 1<sup>st</sup>)

**Advanced** – ages 16 - 18 (as of January 1<sup>st</sup>)

Possible pieces of equipment and uses:

Scotch comb	Used to comb hair
Curry comb	Used to get dirt and manure off animal
Rice brush	Used to brush hair on animal
Show halter	Used for showing your animal in the show ring
Scale	Used to weigh feed
EZAll Foamer	Used for washing your animal
Rope halter	Used to tie your animal
Pill/Bolus gun/Balling gun	Used to give medication to your animal
Ear tagger	Used to put ear tag in your animal
Dehorner	Used to dehorn your animal
Elastrator/Castrating tool/bander	Used to castrate a bull
Clippers	Used to clip your animal
Syringe	Used to give medication
Neck rope	Used to tie your animal along with your rope halter
Scrub brush	Used to scrub your animal
Tattoo kit	Used to permanently ID your animal
Bucket heater/water heater	Used to warm the water in a bucket
Show stick	Used to set up your animal in the show ring
Dewormer/ wormer	Used to protect animal from parasites
Calving chains/puller	Used to pull a calf when born
Ear tag	Used to identify cattle
Frame stick/measuring stick	Used to measure hip height
Tape	Used to estimate weight of cattle
Cidr gun/CIDR implant tool	Used to implant CIDR into female for syncing heat
Iodine	Apply to navel of newborn calf
Oral calf feeder	Orally feed a calf that won't eat. (tube a calf)

In addition –  
**Beef Breeding**  
 should know  
 highlighted items.  
 All items can be  
 googled for  
 photos.

**FEEDS** (numbers do not match set used at skillathon) Resource book pages CP8-13

1	Steam-rolled oats <b>E</b>
2	Cracked Corn <b>E</b>
3	Whole-grain oats <b>E</b>
4	Dry Molasses <b>E</b>
5	Whole-kernel corn <b>E</b>
6	Beet pulp <b>E</b>
7	White salt <b>M</b>
8	Ground limestone <b>M</b>
9	Soybean meal <b>P</b>
10	Cottonseed <b>E</b>
11	Trace mineral salt <b>M</b>
12	Urea <b>P</b>
13	Distillers Grain <b>P</b>
14	Dicalcium phosphate <b>M</b>
15	Complete pelleted feed
16	Ground corn <b>E</b>
17	Soybean hulls <b>E</b>
18	Whole-grain wheat <b>E</b>
19	Wheat middlings (Bran) <b>E</b>

Energy – used for growing and for producing a calf.

Protein – builds muscle, hair, hooves, and tissues inside their bodies.

Minerals – builds strong bones and teeth, makes blood, muscle, and nerves

## Beef Projects – Page requirements

### PROJECT LEVELS ALIGN WITH SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES—

**Beginner** (1<sup>st</sup> year in 4-H, first year taking a beef project or ages 8-11 as of January 1<sup>st</sup>)

**Intermediate** (ages 12-15 as of January 1<sup>st</sup> with experience)

**Advanced** (ages 16 or older as of January 1<sup>st</sup> with experience)

### Market Steer Project Book (117M) and Beef Feeder Project Book (117BF)

The following pages must be completed in the book. **5 pts will be deducted for incomplete books at skillathon.**

- **Pages 4 & 5** - All levels must complete. *(Date requirements: Beef breeding – May 1; Market Steer – 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. in Dec.; beef feeder – 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. in May.)*
- **Page 7** – Beginners complete 1 goal; Intermediate complete 2 goals; Advances complete 3 goals *(including all objectives with each goal as well as project helper initials)*
- **Pages 8 & 9** – All levels complete 1 Topic of Interest *(can be handwritten or typed)*
- **Pages 10 & 11** – All levels complete at least 5 Learning Activities that are level appropriate. *(include date completed and helper initials)*
- **Pages 12 & 13** – All levels complete at least 2 Learning Experiences. *(include date completed and helper initials)*
- **Pages 14 & 15** – All levels complete at least 2 Leadership & Citizenship activities. *(include date completed and helper initials)*
- **Pages 17** – All levels must complete. *(make sure at least 1 parent, guardian or helper signs in addition to member)*
- **Pages 18 & 19** – All levels must complete.
- **Page 21** – All levels must complete. *(complete questions and chart)*
- **Page 23** – All levels must complete.
- **Page 24** - All levels must complete. *(attach feed label or list all the ingredients in your feed)* ▪ **Page 26** – Intermediate & Advanced must complete. *(must circle yes or no and answer question if necessary)*
- **Page 27** – All levels must complete. *(end of project as of July 1)*
- **Pages 28 & 29** – All levels must complete.
- **Pages 30 & 31** – All levels must complete. *(sketch out your animal's pen)*
- **Page 32** – Intermediate & Advanced levels must complete.
  - **Pages 34 & 35** – All levels must complete *(must attach photos of your own animal- no drawings or magazine photos accepted. If you have multiple beef animals – include all beef animals. Answer 2 questions- end of project as of July 1. End of project picture – any picture taken after July 1)*
- **Page 36**– All levels – *(only need to complete animal information and date obtained columns.)* ▪
- **Page 37** – All levels must complete – *(can be printed from computer and taped in.)*
- **Page 46** – All levels must complete. *(You can use scale or tape to get weight.)*
- **Page 49** – All levels must complete. *(If you have never treated your animal – be sure to note it) (can be printed from computer or app records and attached)*
- **Page 59** – All levels must complete. *(if you have no management practices – be sure to note it) (can be printed from computer or app records and attached)*

### **Beef Breeding Project Book 117B**

- All pages listed above for Market Steers & Beef Feeders as well as:
- Page 38 – All levels must complete. (*If registered - can attach photocopies of pedigree*)
- Page 39 – All levels must complete.
- Page 40 – All levels must complete.
- Page 41 – Intermediate and Advanced must complete.

**If you use the 4-H Livestock APP or a computer program – you can print reports and attach them in your book.**