2019 Asotin County Fair Beef Judge Expectations

Nick Nelson

Instructor and Livestock Judging Team Coach, Blue Mountain community College

Introduction:

- Family Raises and Sells Red Angus Bulls and Females through the Lorenzen Ranch's Program
- Competed on a Collegiate Livestock Judging Team at Lassen Community College and California State University, Chico
- Managed the Swine Unit at Chico State and Marketed the Red Angus Bulls
- Served as the National President for the NAAE representing Ag Teachers across the nation
- Has been an Agriculture Instructor at Blue Mountain Community College for 12 years
- Currently raises club lambs that my kids show all over the West Coast

Specific Likes/Dislikes for Judging:

Cattle Conformation:

- Market steers should be finished with ideal backfat coverage being 0.4 to 0.6 inches
- Steers should be muscular with priority being top measurement, then quarter volume
- Structurally correct cattle are preferred in both feet and legs as well as breeding soundness in females and bulls
- Cattle must be big bodied showing correct depth and spring of rib
- Ideal weight ranges from 1300 to 1450 lbs for market steer weight

Cattle Showmanship:

- Cattle must be clipped and clean when entering the show-ring
- Showman should carry a cattle comb and I prefer that they brush them each and every time I touch their animal
- Feet must be set at all times. I prefer a square stance when standing in line side by side, and a profile set when lined up head to tail
- Leads on show halters should not be long enough to touch the ground. Showman should hold their hand at the base of the halter when leading and presenting the animal
- Animals need to have their heads up at all times and be in alignment with their body
- I prefer when showman pull their animal out of line that they turn the lead across the animals nose and not to pull the animal into themselves when they move back into line
- Correctly use the show-stick and that it is the right size for the animal and showman