

Judges Guidebook

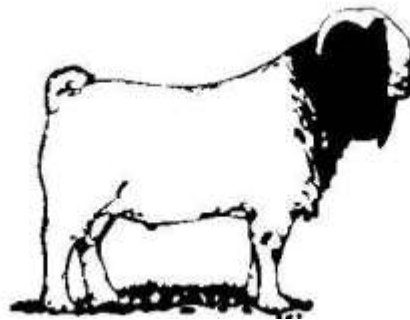


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CMGA Judges Licensing Rules

Procedure to obtain a full CMGA judging license

1. Attend and successfully pass, with a minimum score of 80% for both the written and oral exams, a CMGA-sanctioned Judges Licensing Forum and receive an official CMGA “Apprentice” certificate.
 - a. To pass a CMGA Judges Licensing Forum and receive an Apprentice certificate, an individual must be a minimum of 21 years of age.
2. Apprentice at a minimum of three (3) CMGA-sanctioned shows under three (3) different judges within three (3) years of passing the Judges Licensing Forum, with the following criteria:
 - a. The Apprentice must follow the same code of ethics that the official Judge adheres to.
 - b. The Apprentice must give oral reasons in at least three (3) classes at each show.
 - c. The Apprentice may submit more than three applications, but the applications considered will be the three most recent.
 - d. Only one Apprenticeship under a non-CMGA licensed Judge will be considered. The other two Apprenticeships must be under CMGA licensed Judges.
 - e. To Apprentice at a specific show, Apprentices must apply to the CMGA office no less than 30 days prior to the scheduled show. In addition, Apprentices are responsible for contacting the Show Committee and the Judge they wish to apprentice under to receive permission no less than 30 days prior to the date of the show. Failure to follow this procedure may negate the results of the apprenticeship.
 - f. The Apprentice is responsible for bringing a current copy of the Apprentice Judge Assessment form to the show venue and ensuring that the licensed Judge completes the form and forwards it to the CMGA office.
 - g. Scores on the Apprentice Judge Assessments must show overall improvement. To be considered towards the Judge’s license, scores must be a minimum of eight (8) out of 10 in all sections of the assessment.
 - h. The CMGA Board of Directors will make the final decision for the issuance of a Judge’s license.
3. **NEW!** An Apprentice who has not completed his Apprenticeship at a minimum of three (3) CMGA-sanctioned shows under three (3) different judges within three (3) years of passing the Judges Licensing Forum as stated in the licensing rules above, may be granted a full CMGA judging license based on experience and professionalism at the discretion of the CMGA board. Circumstances may make it impossible for the apprentice to meet the requirements as stated in the licensing rules above and this may be considered by the CMGA board when granting a full CMGA judging license.

Procedure to maintain a full CMGA judging license

Once a year, judges are sent a copy of the current CMGA rules along with the CMGA Judge Annual Declaration Form. Judges must review the current rules and sign the form stating that they have read and understood the rules and that they accept to abide by these rules when acting as a judge in a CMGA sanctioned show or as an instructor in a CMGA Judge Licensing Forum (JLF). The form completed, signed and dated must be sent to CMGA office prior to the annual CMGA Judges’ conference call.

Ethics for CMGA Judges and Apprentices

1. CMGA licensed Judges are representatives of the Canadian Meat Goat Association and as such, shall judge all classes in strict accordance with the current CMGA Scorecards and shall conduct themselves in a professional manner. Attire should be semi-professional, with no shorts, t-shirts with logos, sleeveless shirts, or oversized pants. Footwear should be closed toe and heel, with ball caps and sunglasses permitted in outdoor rings only.
2. The Judge shall certify that all tattoos on the winning animals are recorded on the Report of Awards exactly as they are on the animals. All tattoo spaces shall be filled in; if there is no tattoo, write "none".
3. The Judge should only enter the barns if necessary to reach the show ring or to confer with show officials.
4. The Judge shall not advertise or sell his/her animals or services immediately before or during the course of the show.
5. The Judge shall not give a private opinion on any animal prior to the completion of the show.
6. No person shall judge an animal in which he/she has a financial interest, or which is owned by members of his/her immediate family. Financial interest shall be defined only as ownership or part ownership of an animal.
7. Anyone who has purchased animal(s) directly from a Judge should not show that animal(s) under that Judge within six months of the transfer of ownership.
8. The Judge should not be entertained within 48 hours prior to the show by anyone who intends to exhibit his/her animals at the show.
9. Apprentice Judges are subject to the same governing rules as official Judges.
10. Apprentice Judges may not interfere with the official Judge or his/her final decision.
11. An official Judge may expel an Apprentice Judge from the show ring if he/she feels it is necessary.

Show Rules

Sanctioned Shows

Section A - Pre-Show Identification

1. The original registration as issued by CLRC is required for ALL registered animals. No photocopies will be accepted. In the event of an oversight or omission, electronic verification of CLRC registration will be permitted as a secondary and back up verification method only. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to provide the electronic device and internet access. If for any reason this is unavailable, the animal cannot be shown without the original paper registration certificate.
2. Any foreign resident animal shown must have the original registration paper as issued by the recognized breed association in the country of residence. No photocopies or stamped duplicates will be accepted.
3. The registration paper of each animal may be requested for presentation to the Show Secretary prior to the start of the show.
4. Proof of ownership will be the name on the registration paper.
5. Prior to the show, all animals must pass the mandatory health check as outlined on the Official Health Check Form for CMGA Sanctioned Shows. Animals not passing the health check or arriving too late for an inspection before the show may not be shown.
 - a. It shall be the decision of the Show Committee whether the services of a licensed veterinarian or a committee of three CMGA members in good standing shall be used to perform the health check.
 - b. If a committee is used, all three persons must sign the Official Health Check Form for CMGA Sanctioned Shows and print their name clearly beside their signature.
 - c. The Veterinarian or Health Check Committee has the authority to turn away any animals from the facility and, if deemed necessary, any animal hauled with the disqualified animals. The Committee is directed to follow the protocol as established by their host fair board.
 - d. Disinfectant hand wash, wipes or disposable gloves must be used after each herd group is checked. Disinfectant hand wash, wipes or disposable gloves should be made available to the Judge during the show for use between his or her examination of each animal. Committees should clarify with the Judge beforehand on his/her preference.
6. To gain official recognition of legs towards Permanent Championship, the animal must be owned by a CMGA member in good standing (membership fees current).
7. After an animal has entered the venue of a show, it may no longer be tattooed. All tattoos must be dry and legible **and match exactly what is written on the registration papers (NEW!)**.

Section B - Show Sanctioning

1. The classes, rules and restrictions published for any show shall be an exact duplicate in their entirety of those sanctioned by the CMGA and shall state "CMGA rules shall govern".

2. The official CMGA Sanctioning Application Form, a copy of the schedule of classes and the appropriate fees must be sent to the CMGA Office for approval at least **30 days prior to the date of the show**.
 - a. Fees are \$35/division, \$100 for a show with three divisions, \$125 for a show with four divisions, or \$150 for a show with five divisions.
 - b. National Shows require an additional \$50 fee.
 - c. Confirmation of this application from the CMGA office should be received by the Show Committee within two weeks. If this confirmation is not received, it is the Show Committee's responsibility to contact the CMGA Office to confirm approval of sanctioning.
 - d. **A \$50.00 late fee will apply to all late applications.**
3. The age of animals will be determined by the year of birth.

Section C - Rules Governing Show Officials, Judges and Exhibitors

1. It is the responsibility of the Show Secretary to have a copy of these rules available at all times in case any question arises during the course of the show.
2. It is the responsibility of the Show Secretary to send the Report of Awards, the show program with the results of all classes marked, and the Health Check Form to the CMGA Office within 21 days of the conclusion of the show. **If the official Report of Awards is not forwarded by the Show Secretary within 21 days of the conclusion of the show to the CMGA office, the show's CMGA sanctioning will be revoked.**
3. The Individual Show Committee is responsible for enforcing these rules and certifying that the standards set in these rules have been met.
4. All shows officially sanctioned by the CMGA must be judged by a currently licensed CMGA Judge or a currently licensed Judge of an officially recognized association (i.e. AGBA).
5. Contact the CMGA office for a list of CMGA licensed Judges or refer to the CMGA website.
6. The designation "Official CMGA Show" shall be posted conspicuously at the show.
7. No person shall judge an animal in which he/she has a financial interest, or which is owned by members of his/her immediate family. Financial interest shall be defined only as ownership or part ownership of an animal.
8. Exhibitors are required to dress neatly in the show ring; black trousers or skirts and white shirts are preferred. Clothing bearing agricultural association names or logos is permissible; any business logos or farm names are not allowed. Exhibitors are expected to dress in a way that is respectful to the Judge, other exhibitors and spectators. While in the ring, exhibitors are representing not only their individual farms, but the Association as a whole. The Judge, at his/her discretion may expel any exhibitor from the ring that does not meet these requirements in his/her opinion.
9. When the judge is examining teats on a buck, for the safety of the judge, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to control the buck's movements by turning the buck's head, etc.
 - a. It is at the discretion of the judge to lift the buck's leg themselves or to request the exhibitor to lift the buck's leg.
 - b. If the exhibitor is unable to control the buck and/or lift the leg properly, the exhibitor must find an extra handler(s). The onus is on the exhibitor to constrain the buck and to position

the leg, so the teats can be seen by the judge.

- c. If the judge is unable to examine the teats of a buck, then the buck teats cannot be properly assessed, and the buck shall be placed last in his class and in no event shall that buck be included in the champion selection lineup.

10. **NEW! Extra Handler in the Show Ring**

It is possible, but not mandatory, to get help from an assistant in the show ring for animals presented in classes yearling or older and in ALL group classes.

This person must comply with the following conditions:

- a. Follow the dress code for meat goat shows.
- b. Enter the ring at the same time as the main participant.
- c. Follow the main participant by standing on the outer edge of the ring.
- d. When the animals are stopped, help hold the animal or place the hind legs only.
- e. When the legs are placed and / or the animal is immobilized, the assistant must return to his initial position.
- f. The assistant must not interfere with the judge's assessment.
- g. The assistant must not disturb neighboring animals.
- h. This person is the same acting as an extra handler to help the participant handling a buck to show teats to the judge, as stated in Section C, paragraph 9.
- i. When the judge confirms his/her final placings, unless the main participant still needs help to handle an animal, assistants are asked to leave the ring for the public to appreciate the judge's speech without having their view obstructed by them.

Show participants must have trained their animals by making them easy to handle in the show ring. Show participants are able to judge if help is needed in the ring knowing that some animals will be more disturbed than helped if they are handled by two people at the same time.

The judge is still the authority in the ring and can ask to a handler to move away if hiding the goats or disturbing other animals.

Section D - Arrangement of Classes and Making of Awards

1. Official CMGA shows may sanction classes for the following divisions:
 - a. Purebred Boer Does
 - b. Percentage Boer Does
 - c. Purebred Boer Bucks
 - d. Commercial Does
 - e. Market Kids

Note: *Commercial animals should be judged according to the CMGA Scorecard for Purebred and Percentage Animals, without evaluating colour or breed character.*

2. An animal may compete only once in the age classes of an individual show.
3. Mandatory classes to be held are specified in the Official List of Classes for Sanctioned Shows.
4. All group classes must be made up only of animals that have been shown in their individual (age) classes at that particular show.
5. An official CMGA rosette or certificate must be awarded to the Grand and Reserve Grand

Champion of each division sanctioned.

6. Entries may not be added or withdrawn from classes without permission from the officials in charge after the class is in the ring and the judging has begun. In classes where there is no competition (only one entry), awards shall be made by the Judge according to the merit of the animal.
7. All classes sanctioned must be held if any of the divisions are present and no two divisions may be combined. Classes within a division may be combined.
 - a. Full Canadian animals (15/16) and Purebreds must be shown in the same classes.
 - b. Only registered 1/2, 3/4, or 7/8 Does may be shown in the Percentage division.
 - c. At show designated as National Shows by the Board of Directors, there shall be no less than two Senior age classes offered in each division.
 - d. As shows designated as National Shows by the Board of Directors there shall be no Best in Show class.
8. If an animal is found by the Judge to have a disqualification, the handler will not be asked to leave the show ring but will be placed last in the class. At the conclusion of the class, the Judge must inform the Show Secretary to ensure that animal is included in the disqualifications recorded on the Report of Awards.

Section E - Junior Shows, Divisions and Championships

1. The Junior section of a show, or a Junior show, will be made up of the age classes including the kid and dry yearling classes.
2. Junior Champion shall be selected from the first-place winners of all the classes in this section. In a separately sanctioned Junior show, this will be the Grand Champion.
3. Reserve Junior Champion shall be selected after the Junior Champion has been chosen and shall be selected from those remaining in the Championship class plus the animal that stood second to the Junior Champion in its individual class. In a separately sanctioned Junior Show, this will be the Reserve Grand Champion.

Section F - Senior Shows, Divisions and Championships

1. The Senior section of a show or a Senior show shall be made up of age classes including the two-year-old classes and any older, as well as yearling does that have kidded. Any doe entered in the Senior section must have kidded within the last 12 months to be eligible to show.
2. There shall be at least two age classes in any Senior section or separately sanctioned Senior show. (Note: at CMGA National Shows, there will be no less than two Senior classes per division offered.)
3. Senior Champion shall be selected from the first-place winners of the classes in this section. In a separately sanctioned Senior show, this will be the Grand Champion.
4. Reserve Senior Champion shall be selected after the Senior Champion has been chosen and shall be selected from those remaining in the Championship class plus the animal that stood second to the Champion in its individual age class. In a separately sanctioned Senior show this shall be the Reserve Grand Champion.

5. In shows where the Junior and Senior sections are not separately sanctioned (which is generally the case), the Junior and Senior Champion animals will compete for the Grand Champion and the Reserve Grand Champion will be selected from the remaining Champions and the animal that stood Reserve Champion winner in its section.

Section G - Winning a Leg Toward a Permanent Championship

(only registered animals are eligible)

1. To receive credit for a leg towards a Permanent Championship (PCH), an animal must have legible tattoos before it enters the show ring. The tattoos must match those recorded on the registration certificate. Lack of tattoo, illegibility or the tattoo not matching the certificate shall prevent the animal from receiving official recognition for the Championship or the CMGA rosette. The additional letters "USA" in the ears of imported animals (from the United States) may or may not appear on the registration papers – either situation is considered acceptable for animals imported prior to May 1, 2012. After this date, the tattoo must match the CMGA- issued registration papers exactly, including the letters "USA," if present, in the ear.
2. Only one Grand Champion and one Reserve Grand Champion per division shall be awarded at each separately sanctioned show.
3. An animal winning three legs under the conditions set forth in this section shall become a PCH and shall be entitled the official designation PCH.
4. Only one leg towards a PCH may be won by an animal at a single show. At least two of the legs must be won under different Judges.
5. Any disqualified animal must not be included in the total numbers shown in the Report of Awards for a show.
6. The primary condition for all legs in Doe classes is that there must be at least 10 animals entered in the division and those animals must be owned by at least two different owners. In the Buck division, there must be at least eight animals in the division, also owned by at least two different owners.
7. Does: At least two legs of a Doe's PCH must be "Full" legs and, as such, be earned under one of the following conditions:
 - a. The Grand Champion at a sanctioned show where at least eight (8) Senior Does of her division are competing in at least two age classes; **OR**
 - b. The Reserve Grand Champion to a Doe who was already PCH as shown by CMGA record prior to entering the show ring and with at least fifteen (15) Senior Does in her division, competing in at least two age classes.
8. Only one leg of a Doe's PCH may be a "restricted" leg and be earned under one of the following conditions.
 - a) The Grand Champion at a sanctioned show where there is less than eight Senior Does and at least ten (10) animals in the division; **OR**
 - b) The Reserve Grand Champion to a division PCH that was already a PCH prior to that show, with less than fifteen (15) Senior Does shown and at least ten (10) animals in the division; **OR**
 - c) The Grand Champion at a separately sanctioned Junior Doe show; **OR**
 - d) The Grand Champion at a 4-H show if a total of ten (10) animals are shown by at least two

owners.

Note: *In both Purebred and Percentage divisions, if the Grand Champion is a Junior Doe only a restricted leg is awarded regardless of whether the requirements of a "Full" leg are met.*

9. Bucks: Only Purebred and Full Canadian (31/32 or more) Bucks may be shown. At least two legs of a Buck's PCH must be "Full" legs and as such be earned under the following condition:
 - a. The Grand Champion at a show with at least eight (8) bucks being shown of which four (4) are in the Senior division (in the two-year-old class or older).
10. Only one leg of a Buck's PCH may be a restricted leg and as such earned under the following conditions:
 - a) The Grand Champion at a show where less than eight (8) bucks in total were shown; **OR**
 - b) The Reserve Grand Champion to a Grand Champion that was already a PCH prior to this show.

Section H - Report of Awards

1. Prior to the date of the show, the individual Show Secretary shall obtain from the CMGA Office the official Report of Awards form.
2. The Report of Awards shall be completed in its entirety, except for the signatures, by the individual Show Secretary only. The information for a division judged should be filled in before judging the next division.
3. The Show Secretary shall record all tattoo information from the Judge as he/she reads it from the animal. The Judge is the only authority when reading tattoos on the animal. The actual tattoos as read by the Judge must be shown on the report form. However, if the tattoo is faded, backwards or otherwise not matching the registration papers, a note to that effect should also be written on the report form by the Secretary and initialed by the Judge. Do not attempt to make the show report agree with the registration papers if they do not match as this would be falsification of the report. The exhibitor should be encouraged to contact the CMGA office ASAP for instructions to remedy the problem as owners may not re-tattoo their animals without permission.
4. The owner of the animal (or agent) is responsible for certifying that all information pertaining to his/her animal and to the win has been recorded correctly on the Report of Awards, by signing where indicated.
5. If the owner detects any inaccuracy in the information recorded on the Report of Awards, any correction must be verified and initialed by the Judge.
6. The Show Chairman and Secretary are responsible for certifying that every detail on the Report of Awards is correct to the best of their knowledge.
7. The Judge shall certify that all tattoos on the winning animals are recorded on the Report of Awards exactly as they are on the animals and that all the Best in Show class entries were present during the judging of that class (if it was held). All tattoo spaces shall be filled in; if there is no tattoo, write "none".
8. The Judge, Show Secretary, Show Chairman and the winning exhibitors shall sign the copies of the

Report of Awards. The Secretary shall send the official copy of the Report of Awards, the show program with the results of all classes marked (including number of entries and number of animals disqualified), along with the Health Check form, to the CMGA Office within **21 days** of the day of judging. The Judge and the Show Secretary shall each retain a copy of the Report of Awards.

9. If the official Report of Awards is not forwarded by the Show Secretary within **21 days of the conclusion** of the show to the CMGA office, the show's CMGA **sanctioning will be revoked**. This will result in any championship won at the show not being considered towards PCH status or Canadian Show Champion points. Furthermore, any apprentice judging done at the show will not be recognized.
10. No animal will receive credit for a win unless the information is correctly recorded on the Report of Awards that is received by the CMGA Office directly from the Show Secretary.
11. After the Report of Awards have been completed and signed at the completion of the show, they shall not be added to, or altered in any way by anyone.

Section I - Complaints and Penalties

1. All complaints pertaining to the ethics of Judges are to be referred to the CMGA Board of Directors in writing along with supporting documentation.
2. All complaints pertaining to the competency of a Judge in the ring are to be referred to the CMGA Board of Directors in writing, with details of the complaint.
3. All complaints pertaining to the management of the show or to the interpretation of the show rules are to be referred to the CMGA Board of Directors in writing citing CMGA rule infringements.
4. If a Show Committee is found by the CMGA Board of Directors to be guilty of conducting a sanctioned show in willful violation of the CMGA rules, it will recommend action as follows:
 - a) That the individual Show Chairman and/or Show Secretary not officiate in any official capacity in any official CMGA Show for a period of one year.
 - b) The invalidation of wins at the show in question as far as official CMGA records are concerned.
 - c) Any other action as deemed necessary and appropriate.

Section J - National Shows

1. There may be a maximum of two National shows per year, one in the east (Ontario and east), and one in the west (Manitoba and west).
2. Any show applying for sanctioning may also apply to be the National Show for the current year providing the following conditions are met:
 - a) Minimum of 60 animals total to be entered in the show, all divisions (Purebred Boer Does, Percentage Boer Does, Purebred Boer Bucks, Commercial Does, and Market Kids) represented and indicated by current entries or previous year's entries.
 - b) The request to host the National Show is to be received by the CMGA office before **December 31st** of the current year.
3. Unless specifically announced prior by the CMGA Board of Directors as to a preferred format, a National show may either be designated entirely as the National show and the Grand and Reserve

Grand Champions are the National and Reserve National Champions.

OR

Special National classes may be held at the National show with entries limited to animals who have won Champion or Reserve Champion (Junior, Senior or Grand) at any sanctioned shows held since the last National Show.

Section K - Suggested Code of Ethics for Shows

1. Transportation should be furnished for the Judge. The Judge may be transported by a member of the Show Committee or sponsoring organization who will NOT be showing their animals at that show. Otherwise, funds for taxi or car rental should be provided.
2. Accommodation, if required, for the Judge should be arranged in either a local motel or at the home of someone not exhibiting (if that is acceptable with the Judge).
3. The Judge should not be entertained within 48 hours prior to the show by anyone who intends to exhibit his/her animals at the show.
4. DO NOT request from the Judge a private opinion on any animal prior to the completion of the show.
5. Anyone who has purchased animal(s) directly from a Judge should not show that animal(s) under that Judge within six months of the transfer of ownership.
6. Anyone who owns an animal in which the Judge has a financial interest **MAY NOT** show that animal under that Judge.
7. Do not offer comments or information to the Judge in the show ring unless this is specifically requested by the Judge.
8. After the completion of the show, the Judge would welcome and encourage friendship and constructive questions.
9. All complaints should be handled as described in Section I of the Show Rules and not done publicly to or by any parties.
10. Apprentice Judges are subject to the same governing rules as official Judges.
11. Apprentice Judges may not interfere with the official Judge or his/her final decision.
12. An official Judge may expel an Apprentice Judge from the show ring if he/she feels it is necessary.

List of Classes

CMGA Sanctioned Shows

A. Mandatory Classes

REGISTERED PUREBRED BOER DOE DIVISION

[Canadian Purebreds (min. 15/16) and Traditional Purebreds show together]

A fully sanctioned show must offer classes in both the Junior and Senior sections as outlined below.

JUNIOR SECTION

Must offer a MINIMUM of two kid classes and one dry yearling

Suggested splits for kid classes into **either two or three** age groups

EITHER

- *Senior Kid* – more than eight months, but less than 12 months of age (as of show date)
- *Intermediate Kid* – between five months and eight months of age (as of show date)
- *Junior Kid* – up to five months of age (as of show date)

OR

- *Senior Kid* – more than six months, but less than 12 months of age (as of show date)
- *Junior Kid* – up to six months of age (as of show date)

- *Dry Yearling* – born the previous year; not having kidded

Note: Yearling classes must be split into “dry” and “having kidded” to count towards the proper section (i.e. Junior or Senior).

- *Junior Championship* – Junior Champion shall be selected from the first-place winners of all the classes in this section. Reserve Junior Champion shall be selected after the Champion has been awarded and shall be chosen from those remaining in the Championship class plus the animal that stood second to the Junior Champion in its individual class.

SENIOR SECTION

Must offer a MINIMUM of three senior classes:

- *Yearling having kidded* – born the previous year; must have kidded within the last 12 months prior to the show date

Note: Yearling classes must be split into “dry” and “having kidded” to count towards the proper section (i.e. Junior or Senior).

- *Two-year old's* – must have kidded within the last 12 months prior to the show date
- *Three-year old's and over* – must have kidded within the last 12 months prior to the show date

- The older classes may also be split into:
 - *three-year old's* – must have kidded within the last 12 months prior to the show date
 - *four-year old's* – must have kidded within the last 12 months prior to the show date
 - *five years and over* – must have kidded within the last 12 months prior to the show date
- *Senior Championship* – Senior Champion shall be selected from the first-place winners of all the classes in this section. Reserve Senior Champion shall be selected after the Champion has been awarded and shall be chosen from those remaining in the Championship class plus the animal that stood second to the Senior Champion in its individual class.

GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS

The Junior Champion and the Senior Champion within this division compete for the title of Grand Champion. The Reserve Grand Champion shall be selected from the remaining Champions and the animal that stood Reserve Champion to the Grand Champion winner in its section.

REGISTERED PERCENTAGE BOER DOE DIVISION

(1/2, 3/4 and 7/8 Boers all show together)

A fully sanctioned show must offer classes in both the Junior and Senior sections as outlined above under “Registered Purebred Boer Doe Division”.

COMMERCIAL DOE DIVISION

A fully sanctioned show must offer classes in both the Junior and Senior sections as outlined above under “Registered Purebred Boer Doe Division”.

REGISTERED PUREBRED BOER BUCK DIVISION

[Canadian Purebreds (min. 31/32) and Traditional Purebreds show together]

A fully sanctioned show must offer classes in both the Junior and Senior sections as outlined below.

JUNIOR SECTION

Must offer a MINIMUM of three junior classes

Suggested splits for kid classes into ***either two or three*** age groups:

EITHER

- *Senior Kid* – more than eight months, but less than 12 months of age (as of show date)
- *Intermediate Kid* – between five months and eight months of age (as of show date)
- *Junior Kid* – up to five months of age (as of show date)

OR

- *Senior Kid* – more than six months, but less than 12 months of age (as of show date)
- *Junior Kid* – up to six months of age (as of show date)
- *Yearling* – born the previous year

- *Junior Championship* – Junior Champion shall be selected from the first-place winners of all the classes in this section. Reserve Junior Champion shall be selected after the Champion has been awarded and shall be chosen from those remaining in the Championship class plus the animal that stood second to the Junior Champion in its individual class.

SENIOR SECTION

Must offer a MINIMUM of two senior classes

- *two-year old's*
- *three-year old's and over*
- The older classes may also be split into:
 - *three-year old's*
 - *four-year old's*
 - *five years and over*

- *Senior Championship* – Senior Champion shall be selected from the first-place winners of all the classes in this section. Reserve Senior Champion shall be selected after the Champion has been awarded and shall be chosen from those remaining in the Championship class plus the animal that stood second to the Senior Champion in its individual class.

GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS

The Junior Champion and the Senior Champion within this division compete for the title of Grand Champion. The Reserve Grand Champion shall be selected from the remaining Champions and the animal that stood Reserve Champion to the Grand Champion winner in its section.

MARKET KID DIVISION

All market kids must be weighed prior to showing and must not have any yearling teeth. Determining whether yearling teeth are present is the responsibility of the judge.

Suggested classes for Market Kid division:

- *50-70 pounds*
- *71-90 pounds*
- *91-110 pounds*

GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS

The first-place winners within this division compete for the title of Grand Champion. The Reserve Grand Champion shall be selected from the remaining first place winners and the animal that stood second to the Grand Champion winner in its section.

B. Recommended Group Classes

All animals shown in these classes **must** have been exhibited in the individual (age) classes. It is recommended that these classes award 1st place only.

- *Get of Sire*
 - three animals sired by the same buck
 - do not have to be owned by the same person
 - meant to show consistency in quality of conformation and type

- *Produce of Dam*
 - three animals produced by the same doe
 - do not have to be owned by the same person
 - meant to show consistency in quality of conformation and type

- *Dam and Daughter*
 - dam and one of her daughters (any age)
 - do not have to be owned by the same person
 - meant to show quality of conformation and type and improvement in the next generation

- *Sire and Son*
 - sire and one of his sons (any age)
 - do not have to be owned by the same person
 - meant to show quality of conformation and type and improvement in the next generation

- *Breeder's Herd*
 - four animals produced by the same herd (have same herd name but not necessarily the same owner)
 - meant to show consistency in quality of conformation and type

- *Exhibitor's Herd*
 - four animals owned by the same person but not necessarily with the same herd name
 - meant to show consistency in quality of conformation and type

C. Other Classes

Optional classes could include those for Junior exhibitors, Showmanship, Herdsmanship, etc. and are at the discretion of the individual Show Committee.

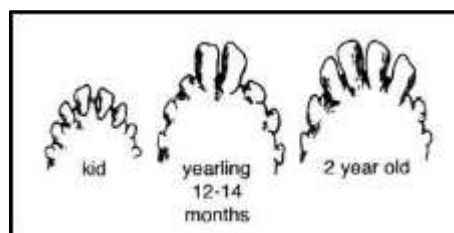
General Guidelines for Judging

Ring Procedures

1. Animals should enter the ring in a clockwise direction, with the handlers on the outside.
2. Set your pattern of ring procedure with your first class and be consistent with all subsequent classes.
3. Check for teeth and teats on every animal you judge to look for potential disqualifications such as overshot or undershot jaws more than 5mm or joined teats. You must use a new pair of disposable gloves or clean your hands with disinfectant hand wash between each animal examined to avoid spreading infections from one to another or to yourself.
4. When examining teeth, ask the exhibitor to open the mouth of his goat.
5. When examining teats on a buck, for your safety, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to control the buck's movements by turning the buck's head, etc.
 - a. It is at your discretion to lift the buck's leg yourself or to request the exhibitor to lift the buck's leg.
 - b. If the exhibitor is unable to control the buck and/or lift the leg properly, the exhibitor must find an extra handler(s). The onus is on the exhibitor to constrain the buck and to position the leg, so you can see the teats.
 - c. If you're unable to examine the teats of a buck, then the buck teats cannot be properly assessed, and the buck shall be placed last in his class and in no event shall that buck be included in the champion selection lineup.
6. Be confident with your placings and show as much poise as possible. Effective oral reasons consist of accurate observation, proper terminology, organization, confidence and ring presence. Speak directly and clearly into the microphone and present a neat, clean and professional appearance.
7. Give each animal careful consideration – remember that each exhibitor has spent time and effort preparing their goats for the show. Be courteous but expedient.
8. If a questionable evaluation arises, refer to the CMGA Scorecards or the Judges Guidebook.
9. Bring a flashlight for reading tattoos, as well as copies of the CMGA Show Rules and Scorecards.
10. Something nice can be said about every animal you judge – remember that there are always new and young exhibitors who will be listening very carefully. Always respect show participants.

Specialty Classes

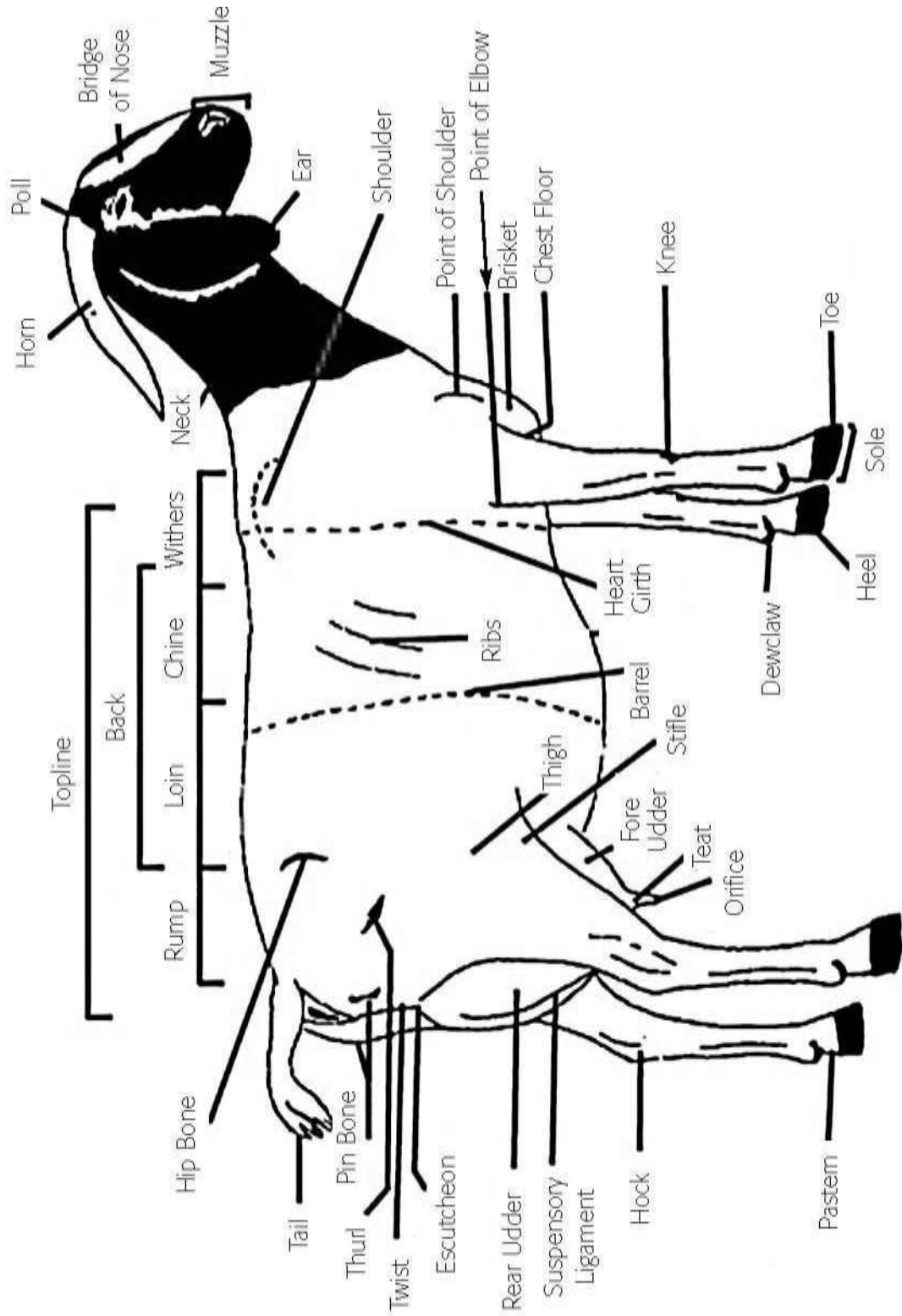
1. Commercial animals should be judged according to the CMGA Scorecard for Purebred and Percentage Animals, without evaluating colour or breed character.
2. All Market Kids must not have any yearling teeth and determining whether yearling teeth are present is the responsibility of the Judge.
3. In all group classes, consistency and good type are of prime consideration. Breeder's Herd, Exhibitor's Herd, Get of Sire and Produce of Dam should all have groups



of animals that are correct and uniform. A group may only be as strong as its weakest animal. In Dam and Daughter and Sire and Son, the parents should exhibit correct conformation and type; the offspring should have all the strong characteristics of the parent with additional improvements.

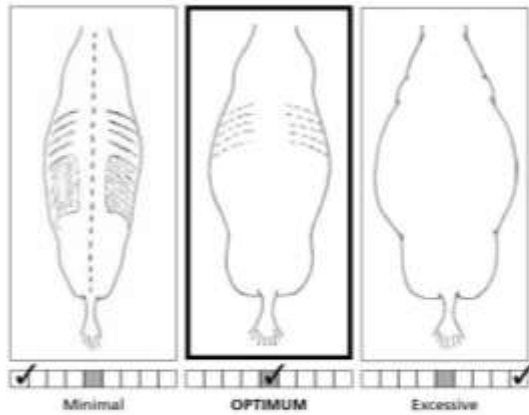
- 4 Showmanship classes should be judged according to the CMGA Showmanship Scorecard and teaching the participants is the most important concern. Always encourage and educate.

Parts of the Goat

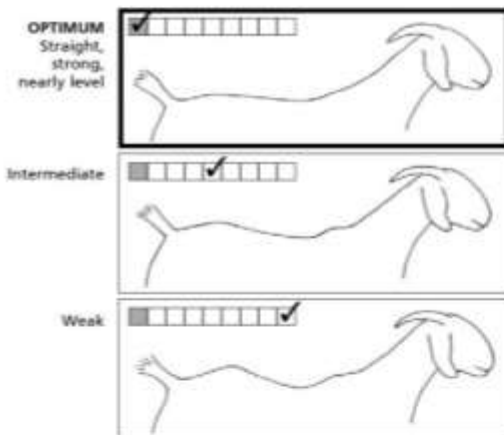


Conformation Examples

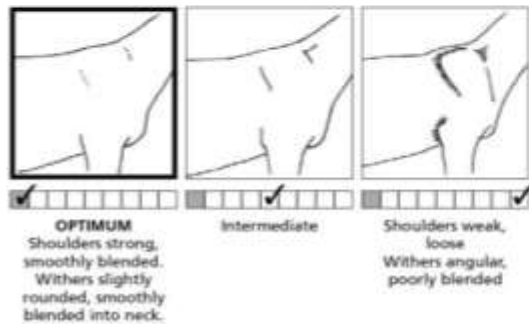
Fat (soft fleshing)



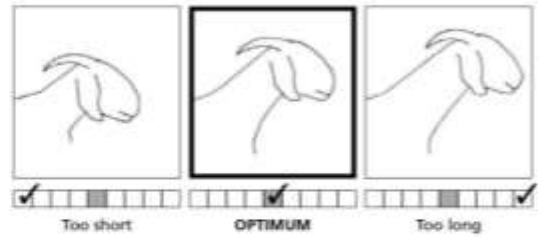
Topline



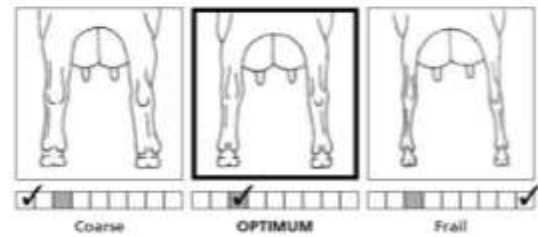
Shoulders and Withers



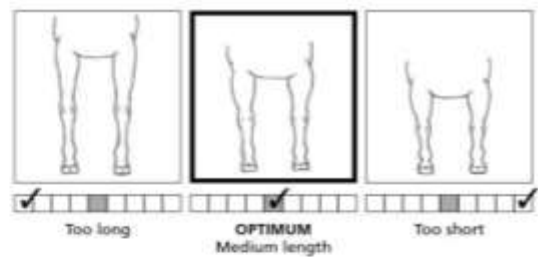
Neck



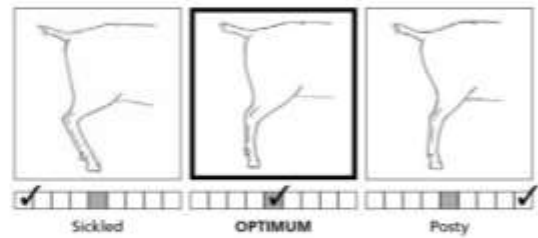
Bone Quality



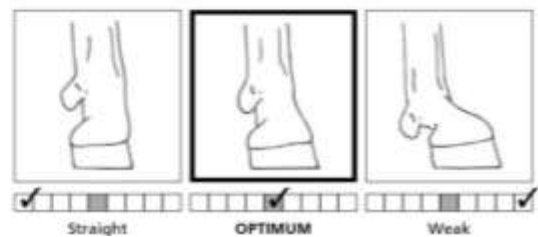
Forelegs



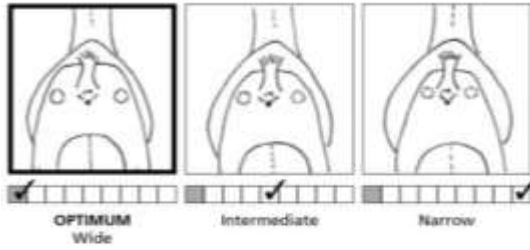
Hindlegs



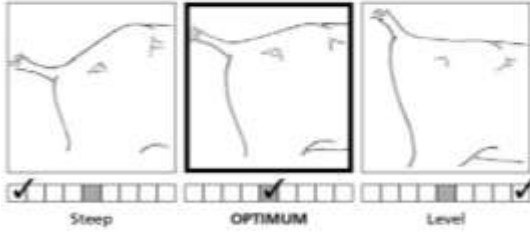
Pastern Strength



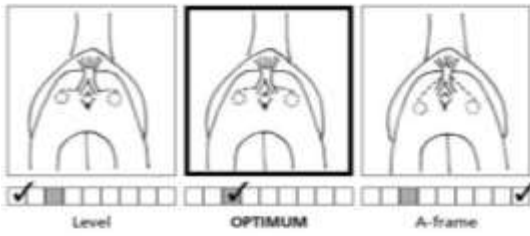
Width (RUMP)



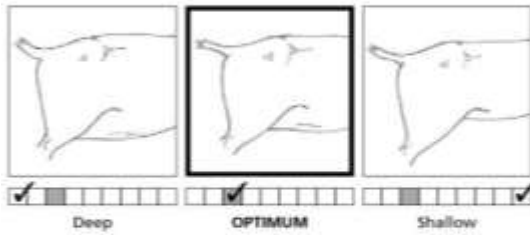
Slope (RUMP)



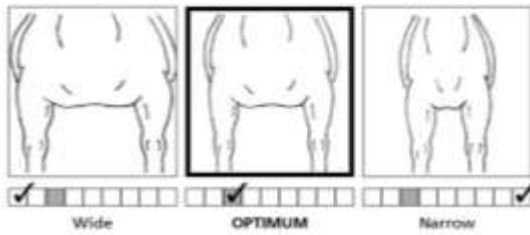
Thurl to Thurl (RUMP)



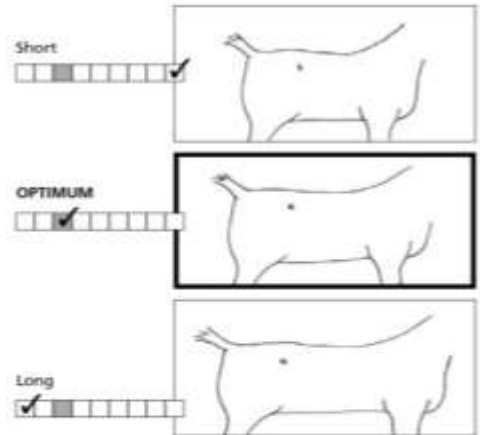
Body depth



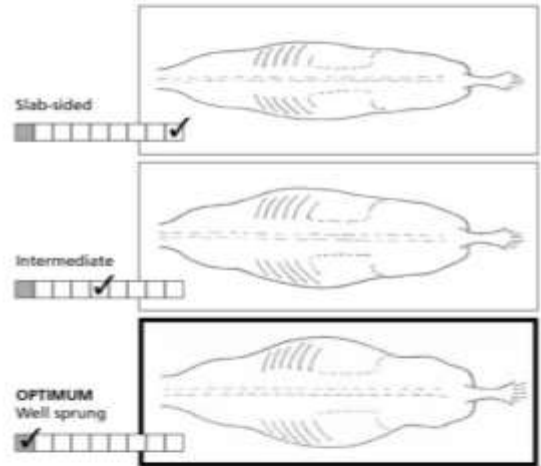
Chest floor width



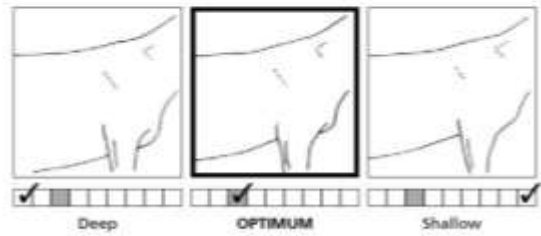
Body length



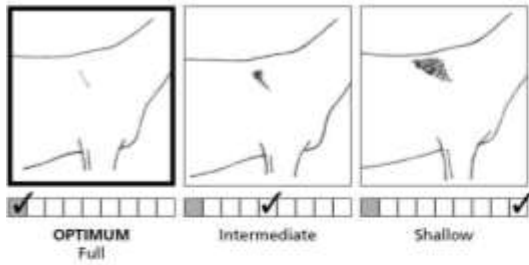
Spring of rib



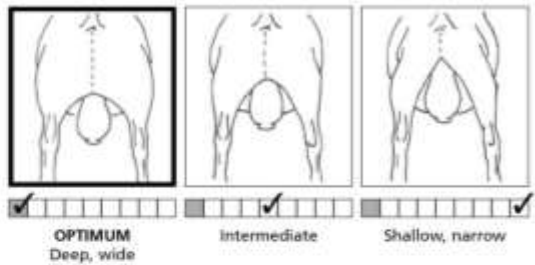
Heart girth



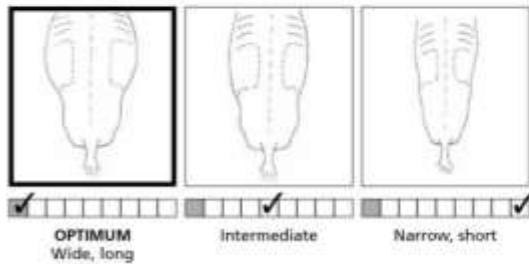
Crops



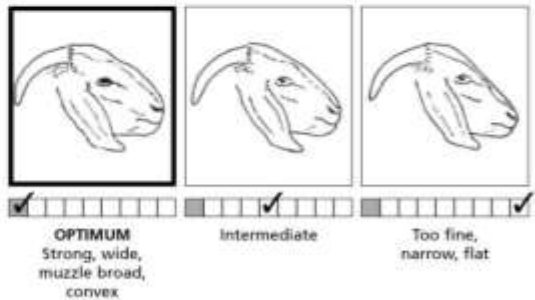
Twist and thighs



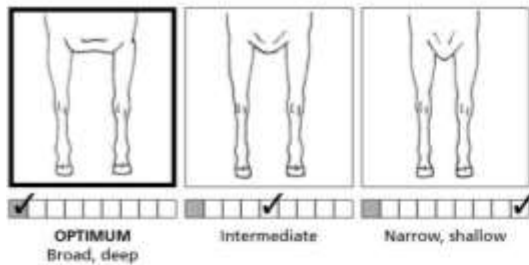
Loin



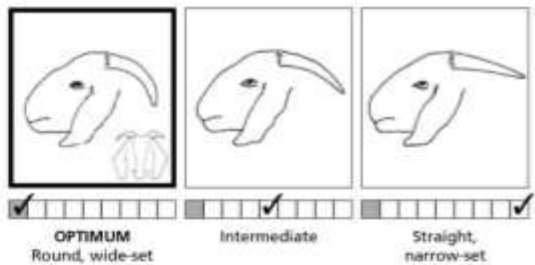
Head



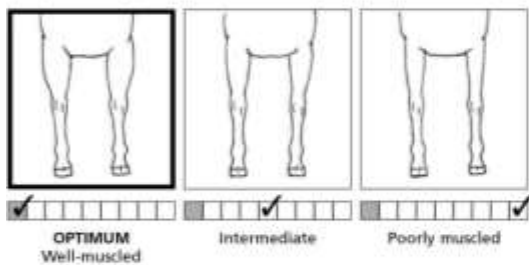
Brisket



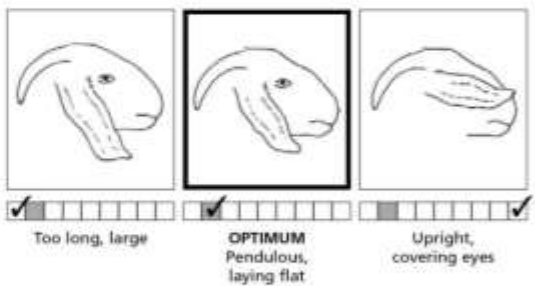
Horns



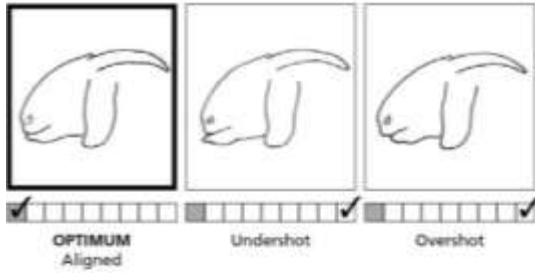
Forearm



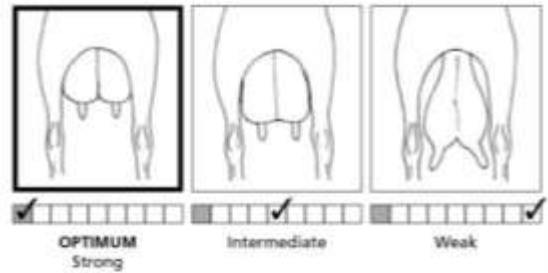
Ears



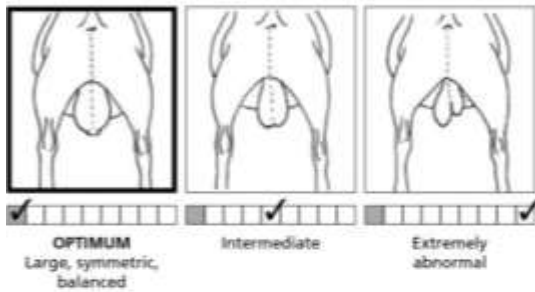
Jaw (bite)



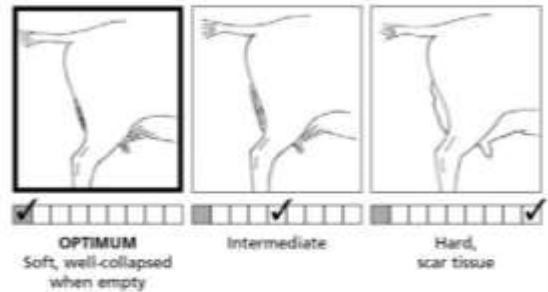
Udder - attachment



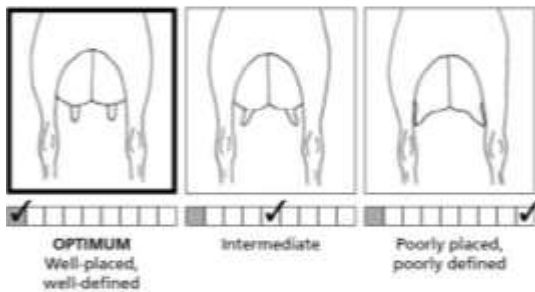
Scrotum



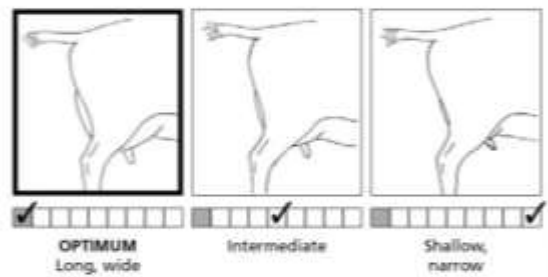
Udder - condition



Teats



Udder - capacity



Examples of undesirable characteristics:



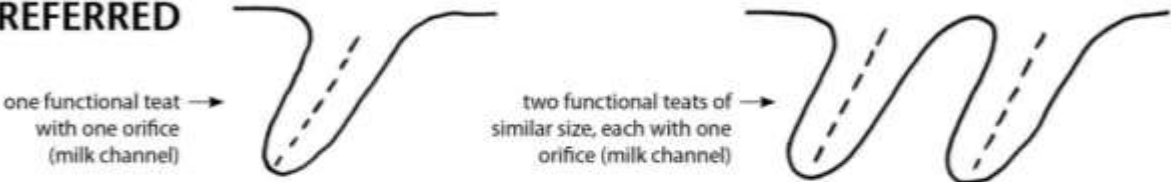
Examples of cull faults (disqualifications):



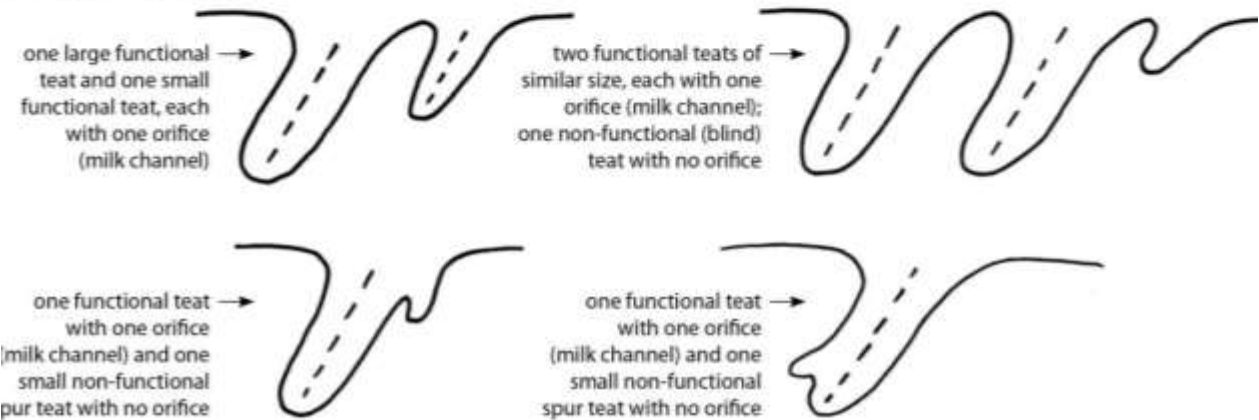
Examples of teat structures

Half of the udder as viewed from the side

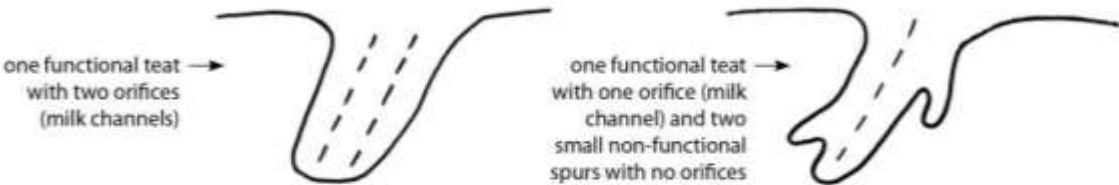
PREFERRED



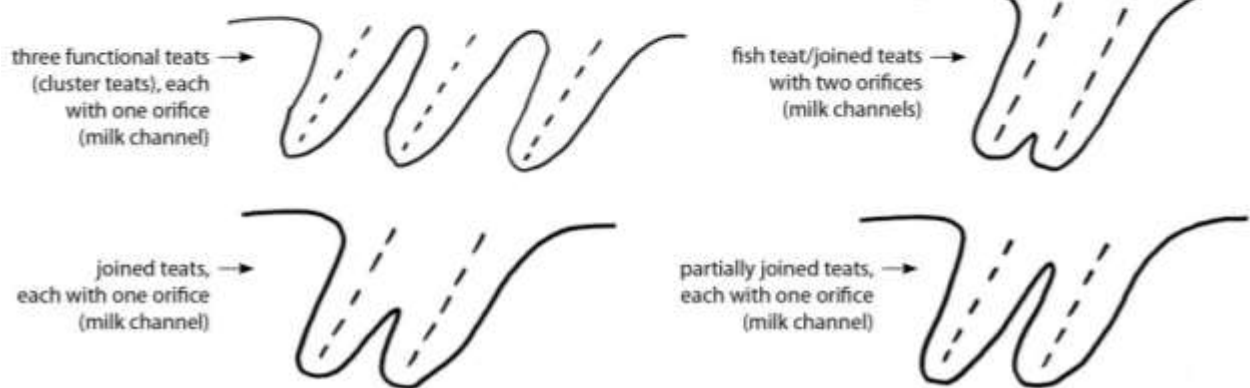
ACCEPTABLE



UNDESIRABLE



DISQUALIFICATION



Meat Goat Judging Terminology

By Ian & Barbie Clark

GGET SMART Systems (Global Genetic Excellence Today - Small Mammal & Ruminant Technology Systems)
Box 850 Shellbrook, Saskatchewan, Canada abg@sasktel.net

***Note:** When placing meat goats in a fair/exhibition show or a video show, it is important to give accurate, concise and understandable reasons. This Judging Terminology article will assist all Judges, breeders, and producers to use and understand a consistent and meaningful vocabulary of terms. Most terms are to be used positively to tell why one goat is superior to the next placing. (A good Judge will usually NOT need to use negative terminology.)*

Breeding goats may be accurately placed on a combination of the following general headings:

- General Appearance
- Structure & Muscle & Body Capacity
- Mammary/Reproductive System

General Appearance

- More style and/or balance
- Walks with more poise or elegance
- More feminine wedge shape
- More femininity / masculinity through the head, neck and shoulder
- More smoothly blended:
 - shoulder blades against the chest wall
 - from the neck into the withers
 - from the withers into the chine
- More level topline
- Has a more sound structural foundation
- More correct breed character about the head especially:
 - in the curvature / straightness of the nose
 - in the length of the ears
 - set to the ears
 - more pendulous ears
- More desirable breed colour
- More correct pigmentation
- More correct maturity for age
- More appropriate growth for age
- More correct size and scale for age
- Has less fat on ribs / loin / chest floor, etc. or overall
- Legs placed to more squarely support the body
- Straighter / stronger / more correct in the foreleg when viewed from the side / front
- Shorter or stronger pasterns
- Walks with feet pointed more correctly forward
- Tighter join to body at the point of elbow

- More correct size to the knee and/or stifle joint
- More desirable shape to the foot
- Deeper heel and / or more level sole
- Tighter spacing of the toes
- More correct bone size and / or shape
- More length of forearm muscling
- Travels with more width between the forelegs and / or the hocks
- More desirable set to the rear legs when viewed from the rear, having more width between the hocks
- More correct set to the rear legs when viewed from the side:
 - more vertical from hock to pastern
 - more desirable angle in the stifle joint
 - more correct size to the stifle joint

Structure & Muscle & Body Capacity

- Stronger and / or wider jaw / muzzle
- More correct bite (out- overshot, in- undershot)
- More femininity / masculinity about the head
- More desirable set and / or style to the horns
- More desirable distance between the horns
- More medium length neck proportioned to the body
- More correct proportional thickness to the neck
- Shoulders more smoothly set against the chest wall and withers
- Fuller in the crops
- More muscle extending down the foreleg
- More smoothly blended into the chine
- Withers more rounded More firm flesh covering on withers
- Stronger / more powerful in the brisket
- Wider chest floor
- More smooth muscle covering
- More correct extension to the brisket
- Heavier muscled or more natural thickness of muscle
- More desirable firm fleshing / muscle
- Has more desirable amount of fat cover
- Deeper / fuller in the heart girth
- More overall dimension and capacity
- Fuller at point of elbow (more well-sprung foreribs)
- Greater spring of rib
- Deeper bodied
- Deeper in the barrel
- Greater capacity allowing for more room for food / offspring
- More increase in the depth of body toward the flank
- More level in the back
- More level in the chine / loin / rump

- Wider in the loin
- Longer in the loin
- Stronger and straighter in the topline
- More level in the rump from hips to pins
- Wider from thurl to thurl
- More smooth muscle cover in the rump
- Thicker / squarer in the rump
- More desirable degree of finish
- More depth in the flank
- More or thicker muscling in the thigh
- Muscling extending farther down the thighs
- Thicker muscle in the lower thigh
- Deeper in the twist
- Fuller / firmer / thicker in the thighs

Mammary/Reproductive System: (does or bucks where applicable)

- More functional udder
- More capacity to the mammary (rear / fore udder)
- More balance to the mammary
- Softer more pliable udder texture
- Less non-productive tissue in the mammary
- Larger testicles
- More uniform size of testicles
- More extension of the fore udder
- More width of the fore / rear udder attachment
- A tighter fore udder attachment
- More smoothly blended rear udder attachment
- More overall area of attachment
- Udder floor is carried more properly above the hocks
- A stronger medial suspensory ligament
- More symmetrical shape to the udder
- **Teats:**
 - More desirable in size and / or length
 - More desirable in shape to the teat
 - More properly placed teats
 - More functional teat structure
 - Teats are freer from obstruction for nursing
 - More desirable number of teats
- More desirable split in the scrotum
- Scrotum freer of scar tissue
- More desirable development in the testicles
- More uniformity of the testicles
- Balanced and symmetrical testicles (testes)
- Free from abnormal teats or teats that have been cut off

History of the Boer Goat

Over 50 years ago, using the goats available to them, several goat breeders in the Eastern Cape of South Africa developed a true meat type goat. They called this goat “Boerbok” which, in Afrikaans, means “farmer’s goat”. Striving for good conformation, fast-growing kids, high fertility rates, hardiness, and adaptability, these early South African breeders have brought the present-day Boer goat very near to the ideal.

In 1987, Boer goat genetics from South Africa were exported to Australia and New Zealand. Both countries significantly increased their number of Boer goats through breeding during the five-year quarantine.

In 1993, a New Zealand company, Landcorp Farming Inc., worked with Olds College in Olds, AB to bring the first Boer goat genetics to North America. Canadian farmers became involved, purchasing frozen Boer goat embryos, and the Canadian Boer goat industry began. The following year, frozen Boer goat embryos were imported directly from South Africa, where the Boer goat population numbers over five million. What had taken South African breeders over 50 years to create had arrived in Canada in a single year!

Canada now has some of the best meat goats in the world, and Canadian breeders continue to strive towards the perfect meat goat. Farming is a business, and a farmer must produce an animal or crop which will ensure the best production and profit for his climate and soil conditions, without weakening the natural resources of the area. This is where the Boer goat fits in.

Because goats are browsers, rather than grazers, they can utilize range and pasture land that is unsuitable for other livestock. As well, Boer goats are suitable for companion grazing with cattle, as they provide little competition for available forage.

In Canada, goats have traditionally been kept for milk and fibre, with meat being mostly a sideline (excess kids or cull animals). The Boer goat was imported into Canada for the same reason that Charolais beef cattle were – for the meat! The Boer goat is a true meat animal, developed and bred for carcass quality. The Boer goat has had great impact on the meat goat industry worldwide, providing a viable choice for new producers as well as existing farmers wishing to diversify.

Boer goat genetics have increased meat goat productivity worldwide. As the Canadian meat goat industry grows to meet Canada’s proven demand, the Boer goat will continue to be front and centre.



Scorecard for Purebred and Percentage Animals

GENERAL APPEARANCE	TOTAL POINTS	DOES 40	BUCKS 40
<p>Quality and condition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deep bodied, well-muscled with a smooth even covering of firm flesh and showing vigour. Strong bone, healthy hair, loose and pliable skin. - Graceful and powerful walk with impressive style. Back should be wide, straight and nearly level. - Does should be feminine and have a well-defined wedge-shaped body when viewed from the side. - Bucks should be masculine. Colour should be traditional colouration consisting of white body with reddish brown on both sides of the head, the colour patch being a minimum of 10cm across in any direction. - Ears should be 75% reddish brown; reddish brown may extend as far as the withers and brisket; body may have a reddish-brown mark not exceeding 15cm across in any direction. Hairless areas must be 75% pigmented. <p><i>Note: colour and pigmentation are only to be given a maximum of one point each within this section.</i></p>		20	20
<p>Breed character</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Head & neck: convex profile with a roman nose and pendulous ears of sufficient length and lying flat against the head, not interfering with the eyes. - Head must be medium length, strong and feminine (masculine) in appearance. - Muzzle broad with large, open nostrils. - Jaw strong, even and correctly aligned with bite neither undershot nor overshot. - Eyes full and bright, forehead wide. - Horns, if present, should be round and curving to rear and out enough to allow head movement without the horns excessively rubbing the neck. - The curve of the horns should follow the convex profile of the face. - Dehorned animals shall not be penalized. - Neck should be proportional to body size and thick at base, blending smoothly into shoulders and brisket. 		10	10
<p>Size and development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - According to age, preference given to animals showing superior growth and muscle development without soft fleshing. 		10	10

FORE QUARTERS	TOTAL POINTS	DOES 15	BUCKS 15
Shoulders		4	4
- Strong and well-muscled with even covering of firm flesh; shoulder blades set smoothly against chest wall and withers.			
Withers		4	4
- Slightly rounded and barely defined with even flesh covering; blending smoothly into the area of the chine.			
Brisket		3	3
- Broad, deep, muscular and firm.			
Forelegs		4	4
- Medium in length, wide apart, squarely set, straight with strong bones.			
- Adequately proportioned to support weight; feet sound, short, wide and pointed forward with a deep heel, level sole and closed toes.			
- Strong pasterns are a must.			

BODY	TOTAL POINTS	DOES 15	BUCKS 20
Heart girth		3	5
- Large heart girth resulting from long, well sprung (wide, flat, long and widely spaced) fore ribs; wide muscular chest floor between front legs; fullness at point of elbow, thus providing ample respiratory capacity.			
Barrel		4	5
- Uniformly long, deep and broad thus providing ample digestive capacity.			
Back		4	5
- Broad and strong with even covering of smooth, firm flesh.			
- Topline strong, straight and nearly level.			
Loin		4	5
- Well-muscled, wide, long and thick.			

HIND QUARTERS	TOTAL POINTS	DOES 15	BUCKS 20
Rump		5	5
- Long, broad and slightly sloping with smooth even covering of flesh.			
- Hips wide apart and level with back.			
- Thurls wide apart and nearly level from thurl to thurl.			
- Pins wide apart and lower than hips. Tail head slightly above and neatly set between pin bones.			
- Tail symmetrical with body.			
Twist and thighs		5	5
- Twist deep, full and firm. Escutcheon low and wide.			
- Thighs deep, wide, muscular and firm.			
Hind legs		5	10
- Medium length; wide apart and nearly straight when viewed from the rear, nearly perpendicular from hock to pastern when viewed from side.			
- Hocks wide apart when viewed from rear and showing correct angulation when viewed from side. Bones strong and adequately proportioned to support weight. Strong pasterns are a must. Feet sound, short, wide and pointed forward with a deep heel, level sole and closed toes.			

MAMMARY/REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM	TOTAL POINTS	DOES 15	BUCKS 5
Udder condition and capacity		5	0
- Long, wide, extending well forward and showing adequate capacity without exaggerated size. Pliable and elastic, free of scar tissue, well collapsed when empty or dry.			
Udder attachment		5	0
- In the fore area carried well forward, tightly attached without pocket; blending smoothly into body. In the rear area high, wide and strong; udder halves evenly divided and symmetrical with strong medial suspensory ligament.			
Teats		5	2
- A doe must have teats of desired length and size for nursing; well defined.			
- Doe's and buck's teats must be free from obstruction; squarely and properly placed. Maximum of two teats per side.			
- Teats must be totally separated and functional.			
Scrotum		0	3
- A buck must have two firm, fully descended testicles of similar size with a maximum scrotal split of 2.4cm/1 in. on a mature buck.			
TOTAL POINTS: ALL SECTIONS		DOES 100	BUCKS 100

List of Disqualifications (Revised May 2003)

- Misalignment of jaws; overshot or undershot more than 5mm
- Total blindness
- Crooked face (wry face)
- Dish face (concave)
- Disfiguring malocclusion (very crooked teeth)
- Helicopter, gopher, elf or erect ears (not a disqualification in percentage animals)
- Serious emaciation
- Lameness (if due to recent injury must be cleared by Health Check Committee)
- Hermaphroditism (displaying characteristics of the opposite gender)
- Teats that are joined or partially joined, including double teats, fish teats and cluster teats
- Bucks with only one testicle or with abnormal testicles

Scorecard for Market Kids

GENERAL APPEARANCE	TOTAL POINTS	30
Quality and condition		15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Well-muscled with a smooth, even covering of firm flesh. - Strong bone. Healthy haircoat. Skin loose and pliable. - No Evidence of improper management of disease. 		
Size and development		15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - According to age, preference given to animals showing superior growth and muscle development. 		
HEAD AND NECK	TOTAL POINTS	5
Head		2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear, bright eyes; large, open nostrils; no discharge from either. 		
Neck		3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medium in length, strong and thick at the base, blending smoothly into the shoulders and brisket. 		
FORE QUARTERS	TOTAL POINTS	25
Shoulders		10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Well-muscled with smooth, even covering of firm flesh; withers barely defined. 		
Brisket		7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Broad, deep, muscular and well covered with smooth, firm flesh. 		
Forelegs		8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wide apart and squarely set with well-muscled shank. - Bones strong and adequately proportioned to support weight. 		
BODY	TOTAL POINTS	15
Capacity		2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing ample digestive capacity without obvious enlargement. 		
Heart Girth		2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Large; wide muscular chest floor between front legs; fullness at point of elbow. 		
Barrel		4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uniformly deep, broad and strongly supported from front to rear, with smooth, even covering of firm flesh. 		
Loin		7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Well-muscled, wide, long and thick, broad and strong with even covering of firm flesh. 		
HIND QUARTERS	TOTAL POINTS	25
Rump		10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Long and broad with a smooth, even covering of firm flesh. 		
Twist and thighs		10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Escutcheon low and wide showing well flesh, deep twist. Thighs deep, wide, muscular and firm. 		
Hind Legs		5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bones clean, strong and adequate proportion to weight. 		
TOTAL POINTS: ALL SECTIONS		100

Showmanship Scorecard

APPEARANCE OF THE ANIMAL	TOTAL POINTS 25
<p>Condition and health 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Showing appropriate growth in relation to age; superior muscle development without excess fat; showing vigor. 	
<p>Hair and hooves 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hooves properly trimmed; hair neatly brushed and groomed; long hairs neatly clipped or trimmed as necessary. 	
<p>Cleanliness 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As clean and as free from stains as possible; legs, feet, under the tail, nose and ears should be unsoiled and free of debris. 	
APPEARANCE OF THE EXHIBITOR	TOTAL POINTS 10
<p>Clothes and individual should be neat and clean. Exhibitors are required to wear black trousers or skirts and white shirts, or official CMGA white shirts, in the show ring. Any other clothing bearing other association, business or farm names or logos is not allowed.</p>	
KNOWLEDGE OF THE EXHIBITOR	TOTAL POINTS 15
<p>Exhibitor should be knowledgeable about proper terminology, anatomy, CMGA breed standards, CMGA scorecards and show ring preparation techniques; able to recognize conformation faults / attributes; all relative to the age of the exhibitor.</p>	
EXHIBITION IN THE RING	TOTAL POINTS 50
<p>Leading 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment should consist of a properly fitted collar or neck chain with or without a short lead or loop; enter the ring in a clockwise direction and walk as normally and inconspicuously as possible; animal should walk readily and stand quietly; keep the goat between exhibitor and the Judge. When asked to walk animals side by side, exhibitors should walk on the outside. 	
<p>Showing and posing 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Primary consideration is to never block the Judge's view of the goat; avoid overshadowing excess fussing and excess moving; maintain an adequate distance between animals; pose the goat with legs squarely underneath; do not cross behind the goat. - When a side by side line placing is changed by the Judge, lead the goat forward out of line, down or up to the place directed, back through the line, then make a U-turn to get into position. In a head to tail line simply move out to the same side the Judge is on, then up or down the line into the directed position. If the goat moves out of position, walk it forward and circle back through position in line, making a U-turn to return to the line, being as inconspicuous as possible. - Exhibitor should be aware of the conformation of the animal he/she is showing and always show the goat to its' best advantage. Older / more advanced exhibitors should be able to show any animal in the ring to its best advantage. Exhibitors should facilitate the Judge's job, i.e. by putting their leg in front of the animal when the Judge is examining mammarys; by opening the goat's lips for the Judge to check the teeth. 	
<p>Attitude and poise 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be aware of the position of the Judge at all times but do not stare at the Judge; respond promptly to requests from the Judge; respect the rights of all exhibitors; show the animal, not yourself; continue showing your animal as long as you're in the ring, even after the class has been placed. 	
TOTAL POINTS: ALL SECTIONS 100	

CMGA Boer Goat Breed Standards

Explanation of Boer Breed Standards

The goal of the CMGA Boer Breed Standards is to improve the breed and to increase productivity by identifying what the Association has deemed the Ideal Boer Goat. Although any animal may be registered if parentage is correct, the Boer Breed Standards provide a guideline for producers to follow when selecting breeding stock, herd replacements and show stock.

General Appearance

The Boer goat is a meat animal and should display volume with symmetry, giving a strong and vigorous appearance. All the component body parts should blend together smoothly to form a refined, well fleshed animal that stands squarely on its feet and legs and moves forward freely.

It is important that bucks be obviously masculine in appearance while does should display femininity. Bucks will tend to carry more mass through the shoulders and chest blending smoothly back to a muscular hindquarter while the doe's body has a wedged appearance showing lots of capacity for carrying young.

Undesirable Characteristics:

- A doe or buck which gives the impression of being of the opposite sex

Head & neck

The Boer Goat has a convex profile with a roman nose and pendulous ears of sufficient length to lay smoothly against the head without interfering with the eyes. Head must be of medium length, strong and feminine (masculine) in appearance. The muzzle is broad with large, open nostrils. The jaw is strong, even and correctly aligned with bite neither undershot nor overshot. The eyes are full and bright, and the forehead wide. Horns, if present, should be well spaced and curve back and out to allow full range of movement without rubbing the neck at maturity. The curve of the horns should follow the convex profile of the face.

The neck should be proportional to the body size and thick at the base, blending smoothly into the shoulders and brisket.

Undesirable Characteristics:

- Neck that is too long, short or thin
- Vertically folded ears

Cull Defects:

- Misalignment of jaws: overshot or undershot more than 5mm (1/5th of an inch)
- Helicopter, gopher, elf or erect ears (not a disqualification in percentage animals)
- Crooked face (wry face)
- Dish face
- Disfiguring malocclusion (very crooked teeth)
- Total blindness

Colouring

Traditional Boer goat colouration consists of a white body with reddish brown on both sides of the head, the color patch being a minimum of 10 cm (about four in.) across in any direction. Ears must be 75% reddish-brown; Reddish brown may extend as far as the withers and brisket. The body may have a reddish-brown mark not exceeding 15 cm (about six in.) across in any direction. Hairless areas must be 75% pigmented.

Undesirable Characteristics:

- Weak pigmentation in the low hair and/or hairless areas under the tail, round the eyelids and mouth, etc. as this could lead to sunburn and possibly skin cancer.

Forequarters

The shoulders should be well muscled with an even covering of firm flesh set smoothly against the chest wall and withers. The withers should be slightly rounded and barely defined, evenly fleshed and blend smoothly into the chine. The brisket should be broad, deep, muscular and firm. The forelegs should be straight, strong and medium in length. Forelegs should be wide apart and squarely set, adequately proportioned to support the animals' weight. The feet should be sound, wide and pointed forward with a deep heel, level sole and closed toes. Strong pasterns are a must.

Undesirable Characteristics:

- Shoulders too loose
- Toes pointed in or out
- Weak pasterns
- Feet that don't grow evenly

Body

The heart girth should provide ample respiratory capacity as evidenced by long, well sprung fore ribs and a muscular chest floor along with fullness at the point of the elbow. The barrel should be uniformly long, deep and broad thus providing ample digestive capacity. Females should show a wedge shape widening towards the rear to evidence lots of room for carrying kids. The back should be strong and broad with an even covering of smooth, firm flesh. A strong, straight and nearly level topline is desirable. The loin should be well muscled, wide, long and thick.

Undesirable Characteristics:

- Narrow heart girth
- Slab sided body
- Pinched behind shoulders
- Weak in the chine area (sway back)
- Lameness

Hindquarters

The rump should be long, broad and level from thurl to thurl, cleanly fleshed and have a slight slope from hips to pins. The tail head is slightly above and nearly set between pin bones with the tail being symmetrical with the body. The twist should be deep, full and firm with the escutcheon (rear udder attachment area) low and wide. The thighs should be deep, wide, muscular and firm. Medium length hind legs are desirable. They should be wide apart and nearly straight when viewed from the rear. When viewed from the side a vertical line could be drawn from the pins to the hocks to the dewclaw. The rear leg bones should be strong and adequately proportioned to support the animals' weight. Strong pasterns are a must. The feet should be sound, short, wide and pointed forward with a deep heel, level sole and closed toes.

Undesirable Characteristics:

- Rump too short or too steep
- Flat buttocks
- Cow hocked
- Sickie hocked
- Posty legs (poor angulation)
- Weak pasterns
- Pigeon toed or splay footed

Mammary/Reproductive System

The doe's udder should be long, wide, extending well forward and show adequate capacity without exaggerated size. The texture should be pliable and elastic, free of scar tissue and well collapsed when empty or dry. In the fore area the udder should be carried well forward, tightly attached, blending smoothly into the body. In the rear area the udder should be high, wide and strong with udder halves evenly divided and symmetrical with a strong medial suspensory ligament. The doe must have well defined, fully functional teats of desired length and size for nursing. Teats on both does and bucks must be free from obstruction and properly placed with a maximum of two well-separated teats per side. A buck must have two firm, fully descended testicles of similar size with a maximum scrotal split of 2.4 cm (one in.) on a mature buck.

Undesirable Characteristics:

- Poorly attached udder
- Teats too large (calabash teats)
- Teats too small for effective nursing

Cull Defects:

- Hermaphroditism (displaying characteristics of the opposite gender)
- Teats that are joined or partially joined, including double teats, fish teats and clusterteats
- Bucks with only one testicle or abnormal testicles