

Indiana

4-H

Rabbit

Ambassador

Handbook

## Mission Statement

The Rabbit Ambassador Contest is dedicated to recognizing youth who excel in their general knowledge of rabbits, their ability to identify breeds and varieties of rabbits, and their ability to determine the quality of an animal through a comprehensive examination process.

## OVERVIEW OF CONTEST

The Rabbit Ambassador Contest is a comprehensive evaluation of a 4-H member's knowledge and skills in the area of rabbits. The evaluation has three components: written test, breed identification, and showmanship. The format and procedures published here for each area have been established by the Indiana State Fair 4-H Rabbit Ambassador Contest Chairperson to facilitate the 4-H member's participation in this contest.

In this contest boys and girls compete in the same category according to the grade in which they were enrolled on January 1 of the current year. See your local extension educator for procedures in the case of grade retention. The grades are divided into the following five categories.

Grades 3 and 4 ..... Novice category

Grades 5 and 6... ..... Junior category

Grades 7 and 8 ..... Intermediate category

Grades 9 and 10... ..... Senior category

Grades 11 and 12... .... Master category

Once a contestant has won a category at the state fair, s/he would move up to the next category if competing the following year. Correct category participation at state fair can be simplified with assistance from the county program. It is recommended that a category winner not advance to the next level in the county competition unless s/he has won that category at state fair. The exception would be for contestants who are advancing with their age group.

The contestant has responsibilities to be prepared for the competition. The contestant should supply number 2 pencils for the written and breed id portions of the competition. The contestant will need to bring a rabbit in a closed bottom carrier for the showmanship portion of the contest. It is the contestant's responsibility to be familiar with the rules and procedures.

The Indiana State Fair 4-H Rabbit Ambassador Contest Chairperson strives to meet the special needs of contestants in all areas of the competition. This is best achieved by contacting the state fair rabbit office (317-927-1478) by the Friday prior to the competition. The accommodations needed should be specified (i.e. read test, read breed id, marking answers, etc.)

### **WRITTEN TEST**

The resources for the written test for all categories are Domestic Rabbit Guide and the current Standard of Perfection, both published by the ARBA ([www.arba.net](http://www.arba.net)). In the event of a conflict of information, the Standard of Perfection is considered the authority.

The number of questions varies according to the category. The test for the novice and junior categories has 25 questions, each worth four (4) points. The test for the intermediate, senior, and master categories has 50 questions, each worth two (2) points. The questions may be true/false, multiple choice, matching, or a combination. The questions, particularly at the younger levels (novice, junior), are intended to be general knowledge. Upper level (intermediate, senior, master) contestants are more knowledgeable and will find more specific questions on the test. A total of 100 points is awarded to this portion of the contest.

The contestant is given a copy of the test questions and an answer sheet. The answer sheet is a scantron answer sheet similar to those used for achievement tests in the school setting.

Suggested strategies for optimum performance follow.

1. Write your answers on the test first.
2. Remember, your first response is usually right.
3. If you don't know the answer, go on to another question and come back to that one.
4. Transfer your answers CAREFULLY to the scantron sheet.
5. Be sure to mark your answer within the area. If you change an answer, erase the first answer well before marking another answer.
6. Assistants in the test area can aid in pronunciation of a word but not in the meaning of a word.