

2022-2023



PREMIER SPONSORING PARTNER



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BEST SPONSORS



EQUIPMENT



AYOY!

The Ohio Cattlemen's Association welcomes you to the 24th year of the BEST Program. This year's show season features 13 sanctioned shows over 7 weekends held throughout Ohio. The program will kick-off with the AGR Holiday Classic in Columbus in December and run through the Ohio Beef Expo in Columbus in the Spring.

The BEST program welcomes this year's sponsoring partners - Ag-Pro, Bane-Welker Equipment, Bob Evans Farms, Diamond T Land & Cattle Co., D&E Electric, M.H. EBY Inc., Weaver Leather Livestock, Ricer Equipment, The Folks Printing, Dickson Cattle Co., Jones Show Cattle and RD Jones Excavating.

BEST provides participants with opportunities through cattle shows, Stockmanship competitions, community service projects, photography competitions, leadership opportunities and scholarships. The BEST Program has grown tremendously over the years with over 800 industry youth and 1,030 head of cattle that participated in the 2021-22 program.

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What is the BEST Program?

OVERVIEW

BEST (Beef Exhibitor Show Total) is a youth development program of the Ohio Cattlemen's Association (OCA) that recognizes Ohio's junior beef exhibitors for participation and placings through a series of sanctioned cattle shows that include showmanship competitions. Juniors who participate in these sanctioned shows earn points for their placings. Points are tabulated for cattle, showmanship, registered Bred & Owned animals, and first or second year BEST participants in a separate Novice division for market animals, heifers and showmanship and the Buckeye Breeders Series Program. The program promotes consistency for exhibitors at sanctioned shows hosted by county associations or agricultural groups and clubs. These points are tabulated and posted at www.ohiocattle.org.

The BEST program is coordinated by a committee. BEST provides an environment for friendly competition and success while serving as an opportunity to create the next generation of leaders by educating juniors on beef industry issues, promoting family membership and participation in OCA and rewarding the successful accomplishments and hard work of Ohio's young cattlemen.



Additional areas of opportunity are offered through BEST with Junior Representative positions, scholarships, and a photography competition for participants to showcase their talent.

HISTORY OF THE PROGRAM

The BEST program was started in 1999 by the Ohio Cattlemen's Association with three goals:

- Youth education and leadership development
- Beef industry youth recognition and awards
- Provide a series of shows that have consistent and ethical regulations

SPONSORING PARTNERS

Evans Cattle Co., Ag-Pro, Bob Evans Farms, Diamond T Land & Cattle Co., D&E Electric, M.H. EBY Inc., Weaver Leather Livestock, The Folks Printing, Ricer Equipment, Dickson Cattle Co., Jones Show Cattle, RD Jones Excavating, Shepard Cattle Company and Six R Farms.

Thanks to these generous contributors, BEST participants receive a gift upon signing up for the program, top-ten placing showmanship awards at each show, year-end prizes and awards, the opportunity to win show supplies and a year's lease on a new livestock trailer, in addition to many others.



What's new?

As the BEST program enters its 24th year, the volunteer leadership has kept their commitment to the BEST participants and their families with their priorities set on keeping the family the focus of the program. Several of the new concepts that will be debuting this year are driven directly by participant feedback. The newest changes for BEST have been outlined in this brochure and more information will be available on the OCA website, www.ohiocattle.org.

BVD PI TESTS REQUIRED

ALL cattle, heifers and steers, (BEST & non-BEST) (in-state and out-of-state) exhibited at an OCA BEST sanctioned show are required to be tested and negative for Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) persistent infection (PI) status. All animals must have a negative BVD test to be exhibited at any OCA BEST sanctioned show. This does not prohibit an individual animal from being retested, should an initial screening test be determined to be a false positive. Exhibitors with a test positive animal (on initial screening) should work with a veterinarian to determine additional BVD testing options. Any animal that has a final positive BVD result (is determined to be persistently infected) is ineligible to be exhibited at any OCA BEST sanctioned show.



Acceptable tests include and are limited to: Immunohistochemistry (IHC) on skin, Antigen-capture ELISA (ACE) on serum (blood test) or skin. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) on whole blood, serum or skin. Animals must be individually tested and individually identified. Pooled testing is acceptable only if documentation is provided that the animal was specifically included in the pool and that the pool contained no more than 7 animals.

Schedule the BVD PI test with enough lead time to receive the test results prior to a BEST show. A lead time of at least two weeks is recommended prior to the first show. All animals being tested, registered and crossbred, must be identified with an 840 EID tag at the time of testing. A BVD PI test is a one-time test good for the life of the animal.

Like declaring a breed at the first sanctioned show, proof of a Negative BVD PI test MUST be provided at the next BEST sanctioned show immediately following the first BEST show the animal attended, whether or not you plan to exhibit cattle at the show, EXCEPT for exhibition at the Ohio Beef Expo. Failure to do so will result in the animal being dropped from the BEST point standings and the program. Additionally, any showmanship points garnered with the animal will be forfeited. All cattle exhibited at the Ohio Beef Expo Junior Show will be required to be tested and negative for Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) persistent infection (PI) upon arrival on the Expo grounds.

BUCKEYE BREEDERS SERIES (BBS):

OUT-OF-STATE EXHIBITORS ELIGIBLE

Out-of-state juniors who purchase Ohio BBS cattle will be eligible to participate in the BEST program and exhibit them at all BEST sanctioned shows, compete for points and over-all year-end awards, providing they meet all other program eligibility requirements. This change will provide Ohio breeders of BBS cattle increased marketing and recognition opportunities for their Ohio bred and born registered cattle. Out-of-state juniors will be eligible to compete in BEST showmanship competitions, prior to the Ohio Beef Expo, but are not eligible to accumulate BEST points for showmanship placings. Showmanship at the 2023 Ohio Beef Expo will be open to Ohio exhibitors only.

BBS NOMINATION PROCEDURES

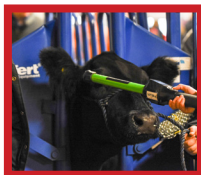
BBS cattle will incur a \$25 per head nomination fee, that must be paid by the animal's first BEST show, in addition to the \$60 per head one-time BEST nomination fee. This \$25 fee need only be paid one time by either the breeder or the BEST participant. Cattle may be nominated throughout the BEST season, but all BBS cattle that will be exhibited at the Ohio Beef Expo junior show must be nominated by March 1, 2023, with the exception of Buckeye Breeders Series eligible cattle sold in the Ohio Beef Expo breed sales. Cattle that are eligible to show for more than one year must pay a new Buckeye Breeders Series nomination each calendar year. Breeders must also complete a nomination form (each form can be used to nominate up to ten animals from the same breeder) and sign an affidavit verifying BBS eligibility.

SHOWMANSHIP ENTRY DEADLINE

Showmanship entry deadlines will be the Friday night before the show at the close of check-in.

What do I need for my 1st BEST Show?

ALL cattle, heifers and steers (BEST & non-BEST) (in-state and out-of-state) exhibited at an OCA BEST sanctioned show are required to be tested and negative for Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) persistent infection (PI) status. Proof of the negative test must be provided at the next BEST sanctioned show similar to declaring a breed.



ALL cattle showing at a BEST sanctioned show in-state and out of state MUST be tagged with an electronic identification (EID) ear tag prior to arriving at their first BEST show. To obtain farm EID tags, exhibitors must first obtain a Premise ID number through the state's Department of Agriculture – Animal Division. Once the Premise ID is received, contact an animal health product distributor and purchase EID tags. Visit best.ohiocattle.org to learn more about applying for a farm's Premise ID before ordering EID tags. EID Tags are available through the OCA office. ALL EID TAGS MUST BE OFFICIAL 840 RFID TAGS.

Online BEST Nomination & Show Entries

WWW.OHIOCATTLE.ORG/BEST

OCA BEST rules, show season current point standings, show information and results will be posted on the OCA website www.ohiocattle.org under the Youth tab.



BEST.OHIOCATTLE.ORG

BEST nominations and ALL online show entries must be made at best.ohiocattle.org. Each exhibitor, BEST and non-BEST will create a unique user account and record their cattle along with that account. Exhibitors may complete this portion of the sign-up process now, and show entries can be made starting on the Monday prior to each BEST show until the closure of check-in at each event. At the first BEST sanctioned show, the animal's EID tag number will be recorded and will be used to check that animal in at any future BEST show for the 2022-2023 show season. Once the participant and animal are entered into the system, show entries must be made prior to each show. Exhibitors may then pay for show entries online with a credit card or they may choose to pay upon arrival at the BEST show. Please note that all cattle MUST be entered in the show prior to bringing cattle through check-in. Participants may also use their smartphone, tablet or PC and make show entries.

Pick Up Your Ohio State Fair DNA Packet

The Ohio State Fair Beef Department will continue EID tags and DNA samples for identifying market beef animals at the 2023 Fair. The DNA collection will be submitted to the Ohio State Fair by January 15, 2023. If you have a pre-existing EID tag from a BEST show, it will serve as your Ohio State Fair tag number and will need to be recorded on the DNA sample packet sent to the state fair. Packets to collect DNA may be picked up at AGR Holiday Classic or the Scarlet & Gray Midwest Show-down.

For more information regarding the Ohio State Fair, visit www.ohiostatefair.com or www.ohiocattle.org/best/best-updates

Program Requirements

Complete exhibitor rules governing the BEST program can be found at www.ohiocattle.org. These include breed divisions, cattle ages and showmanship age divisions. Program requirements are that participants are in-state or out-of-state (only eligible with BBS cattle) residents who are eight years old as of January 1, 2023 but are not older than 21 years as of age as of January 1, 2023 are eligible to accumulate OCA BEST points. Anyone who has reached 22 years of age before 1/1/23 is ineligible.

To be eligible for OCA BEST points and awards, juniors or the junior's family must be a current member of the Ohio Cattlemen's Association.

The OCA membership must be in the name of the BEST participant's immediate family. Immediate family is defined as a membership in the parents' name or the membership has the same address of record as the BEST participant. OCA memberships are family memberships and operate on a 12 month basis. Memberships for the Ohio Cattlemen's Association are \$75.00. If more than one junior within a family participates in the program, only one membership is required. For all OCA BEST participants, the OCA membership must be paid at the time the BEST nomination is made. If a BEST participant's membership will expire during the current show season, the membership must be renewed at their first BEST show.

To be eligible for the BEST program, participants and their immediate family members must be in good financial standing with OCA. Good financial standing includes but is not limited to prior year's unpaid accounts with OCA or any BEST sanctioned show or unpaid accounts resulting from a BEST rule violation. All prior unpaid accounts must be paid in full prior to making BEST nominations. BEST participants must continue to be in good financial standing with OCA and each BEST sanctioned show throughout the program year to be eligible to receive BEST awards and to be listed in the BEST final points. The BEST Committee reserves the right to place BEST participants on a cash only basis at all BEST sanctioned shows based upon past violations of this rule.

A nomination fee is also required for each animal a junior enters in the BEST program. The one-time \$60.00 nomination fee allows the animal to accumulate points at any OCA BEST sanctioned show. The nomination fee must be paid before the start of the show where the exhibitor plans to accumulate points. Online nomination and entries must be completed for each participant and animal and may be submitted prior to or during check-in at a BEST sanctioned show.

Exhibitors must be BQA certified to participate in a BEST sanctioned show. Read more about BQA on page 12.

WHAT DO I NEED TO PAY?

Fees	Ohio BEST Participant	Ohio BEST BBS ¹ Participant	Out-of-State BEST BBS ¹ Participant	Out-of-State Exhibitor at a BEST Show
Pay Show Entry Fees	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
\$75 OCA Family Membership ²	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
One-time BEST Nomination (Per Head) ³	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	No
One-time BBS ⁴ Nomination (Per Head)	No	\$25.00	\$25.00	No
BEST Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Certification	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Why join the Ohio Cattlemen's Association?

OCA is member focused and issue driven to represent the business interests important to Ohio's cattle families. Over 2,300 families have joined OCA who have backgrounds in all areas of the cattle industry. OCA is the beef industry trade organization for the state of Ohio and is an affiliate of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA). OCA is the state's grassroots policy development spokesperson and issues manager for all segments of the beef cattle industry including cattle breeders, cow-calf and feeders.



OCA members receive six issues of the Ohio Cattleman magazine and a bi-weekly e-newsletter. Members have access to exclusive educational opportunities such as Cattlemen's Academy. As OCA members, your family can also take advantage of several member benefits and discounts. For example, members receive discounts on farm supplies, feed purchases, insurance and registration for OCA events. Encourage your friends, family, or neighbors to join OCA! To read more about member benefits, visit www.ohiocattle.org.

BEST Perks

BEST participants receive a \$5 discount per entry at each show on their entry fees. Also, six of the seven BEST weekends for the 2022-23 season will feature double ring opportunities. Double rings offer two sets of points with heifers or steers showing in back-to-back rings all on one day. Showmanship at shows that offer one showmanship competition will take place on Saturday afternoon to save many families an extra night of hotel expense. Another savings is that the program has also kept the maximum number of shows that will count toward the year-end point total at 11 shows. With a total of 13 sanctioned shows to choose from, participants can select the shows closest to them to attend.

BEST sponsor M.H. Eby Livestock Trailers will award one lucky BEST participant the free use of a new Eby livestock trailer for next year's show season at the banquet in May. Participants will be entered in the drawing for every animal nominated in the BEST program, plus an additional entry for each animal shown at each BEST show attended. In addition to the BEST trailer, Eby also partnered to give away an additional trailer for the BBS division of BEST.



BEST Rule Highlights

(For complete rules, visit www.ohiocattle.org)

SHOWMANSHIP DIVISIONS

Age divisions are as of January 1, 2023

- Beginner Division – 8 to 10
- Junior Division - 11 to 13
- Novice Division – 11 to 16 (see below for more details)
- Intermediate Division - 14 to 16
- Senior Division - 17 to 21

BEST shows may close showmanship to BEST only participants. The Novice showmanship division is offered exclusively to first- or second-year BEST participants ages 11-16.

In addition to being in their first or second year, they could not have previously finished in the Top Ten Overall Novice Market Animal, Heifer or Showmanship points standing. 11-16 year old Novice BEST participants may choose to compete in either their designated age division OR the Novice division; however, they must choose one or the other, not both. The Novice Division is not open to out-of-state exhibitors.

CATTLE AGE REQUIREMENTS

Steers & Market Heifers born on or after January 1, 2022. Heifers born on or after September 1, 2021.

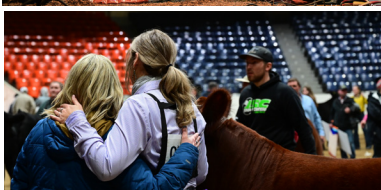
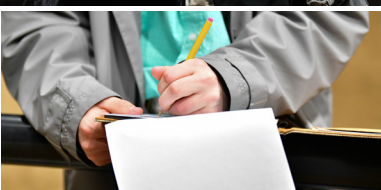
BREED QUALIFICATIONS

BEST show participants may provide breed registrations electronically at the time of check in. Although electronic papers are permitted, exhibitors are encouraged to have registration papers in hand at time of check in. All registrations meeting their breed association's national junior show eligibility requirements will be accepted. The animal's registration must be in the name of the junior exhibitor who is exhibiting the animal. For BEST points, no family farm names will be permitted. At the first two (2) BEST sanctioned shows; AGR Holiday Classic and the Scarlet & Gray Midwest Showdown, BEST participants, who have not received their completed registrations, may still nominate their animals as a declared breed. (i.e. – if you have a Hereford steer and declare his breed at the AGR Holiday Classic, either a completed registration paper or electronic registration must be given to BEST officials at Scarlet & Gray Midwest Showdown) Proof of registration MUST be provided at the BEST sanctioned show immediately following the show where the animal's breed was declared whether you exhibit cattle at the show. Failure to do so will result in the animal being dropped from the BEST point standings; additionally, any showmanship points garnered with the animal will be forfeited. Once proof of registration is provided on animals dropped from the program, the animal may be re-nominated for the BEST program and start collecting points; however, no points accumulated prior to providing proof of registration will transfer. The BEST committee reserves the right to evaluate all breed steers and heifers for breed standards.

Cattle without a registration and legible tattoos that correspond to the registration will be considered crossbred. Tattoos will only be checked one time at a show. If the animal has illegible tattoos they will be placed in the crossbred division. Cattle may only show one time within a show. Dual registered cattle may show only in one breed at one show. The exception to this rule is heifers that are nominated in the BEST program and show in BEST sanctioned shows as both a breeding heifer and a market heifer, providing the exhibitor has paid to dual nominate and enter the heifer in both shows.

Breed heifers must be shown by age and crossbred heifers by weight. Steers and Market Heifers must be shown according to breed and weight.

The following breed classes will be offered (unless a breed specific show) based on breed minimum percentages as listed: **Note-all high and low percentages must show in their appropriate division.



Breed	Heifer	Steer
Angus	Purebred	Purebred
Charolais	Purebred	50%
% Charolais	50%-15/16	
Chianina	ACA Minimum* (6.25%)	ACA Minimum*
Hereford	Purebred	Purebred Registration paper required* No certificates will be accepted
High% Maine Heifers	¾ (Brown Papers)	
MaineTainer Heifers	¼ (Green Papers)	
Maine-Anjou Steers		¼
Shorthorn	15/16	15/16
Shorthorn Plus	½	1/4
Purebred Sim- mental Heifers	7/8	
Percentage Sim- mental Heifers	½-¾	
Simmental Steers		½
High % AOB	National Jr. Show Eligible	
Low % AOB	National Jr. Show Eligible	
AOB Steers		National Jr. Show Eligible

The High % and Low % All Other Breeds (AOB) divisions offered are for registered heifers that do not have their individual breed offered as a division. Registered heifers and steers that do not have their own breed division offered will show in their appropriate AOB division, providing they meet their breed's minimum percentage to be eligible to show at their respective breed's national junior shows. ALL AOB steers will show in one division and will not be split into a High % and Low % AOB division. Registered cattle that do NOT meet the breed percentage requirement for their respective breed's national junior eligibility requirement will show in the Crossbred division, not as an AOB. The High % AOB division will combine the breeds that are eligible, for example: Gelbvieh, Limousin, etc. The Low % AOB division will combine the breeds that are eligible, for example: Low % Chianina, Low % Simmental, Balancer, LimFlex, etc. Also, ChiAngus (Chiangus and Red Chiangus (1CA, 2CA, & PCA) females with 6.25% Chianina or more) heifers and MaineAngus (3/8 – 5/8; Blue papers) heifers with upgraded papers will be eligible for the High % AOB division.

BEST participants can only receive points on animals in one division, breed or crossbred. An animal cannot be shown as a crossbred one week and a breed animal the next week and maintain two sets of points. Their points will be counted for the division listed on their nomination form. Market Heifers that are also nominated as breeding heifers are exempted from this rule.

Show schedules will be up to the discretion of each BEST show. However, the show order within the heifer show and the market animal show will be alphabetical starting with Angus and moving through all the breeds, followed by All Other Breeds (AOB) and ending with Crossbreds.

Market Heifers will be shown before crossbred steers. All special county shows will take place at the end of the heifers or the end of the steers, as appropriate. In addition, it is mandatory that classes be provided for breed heifers, no matter the number of heifers of that breed entered in the show, according to the following age breaks: September-December 2021, January-February 2022, March-April 2022, and May 2022 and younger. This is the minimum number of classes to be provided. At larger shows additional classes may be added. Show order for heifers will be from youngest to oldest. Classes over 12 head will be broke evenly by the BEST show committee.

All cattle will be recorded by their EID tag number. Purebred steers and heifers will be verified by their tattoo issued on their registration papers.

SHOW YOUR OWN ANIMAL FOR BEST POINTS

To receive BEST points, animals must be shown by their owner. An exception is made if the BEST participant owns two or more animals that are in the same class, or has two different animals that are both showing simultaneously in adjacent rings. In these two scenarios another junior may exhibit the second animal and the participant would still receive BEST points for both animals. When the class conflict is over and for championship drives, the actual BEST participant must return to showing their own animal to retain the points earned. It is the BEST participant's responsibility to inform the OCA staff person or BEST Committee member in charge of the class conflict as it happens, not after the show.

BEST participants that are physically unable to show their animal may ask another BEST participant or have a family member who meets the age requirements for the BEST program to show their animal, but the unable BEST participant must be present at the show to earn OCA BEST points. If the BEST participant becomes ill after the cattle have arrived at a show and been checked-in, another BEST participant or family member who meets the age requirements for the BEST program, may show their animal(s). The BEST participant must seek prior approval from the BEST Committee and the BEST participant must have been at the show, hotel and/or left home with the cattle. Should a BEST participant become ill and stay home prior to the cattle leaving for a show, then no BEST points will be awarded to the participant's cattle. Family emergencies are at the BEST Committee's discretion, but the participant must seek prior approval for BEST points to count. The BEST Committee reserves the right to use discretion in administering this rule regarding situations not already covered. All decisions by the BEST Committee on points associated with showing your own animal shall be final.

BRED-AND-OWNED ANIMALS

At the end of the 2022-23 BEST show season awards will be presented to the top 5 bred-and owned heifers and top 5 bred-and-owned steers in the final points standings. These awards will be presented at the BEST awards banquet. To be recognized the BEST junior exhibitor must be listed as the breeder on the animal's registration paper. Crossbred animals are not eligible for bred-and-owned awards.

BEST RULE #15

The exhibitors and their animals, (BEST or non-BEST), their family members, and others acting on the behalf of the exhibitors, will follow Ohio's Livestock Show Reform Law, Chapter 901 of the Ohio Revised Code, and all rules under Ohio's Livestock Tampering Exhibition Rules, as set forth in Sections 901-19-1 through 901-19-21 and Section 901-19-33 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The BEST Committee reserves the right to test and/or ultrasound any animal at a BEST Show. The BEST Committee, at its sole discretion, may test and/or ultrasound winners, at random, or upon reasonable suspicion of possible violations of any of the Ohio Livestock Show Reform Law and its related rules or other OCA BEST Rules. By participating in a BEST sanctioned show, exhibitors (BEST and non-BEST) consent to BEST committee members, OCA staff and show management entering the tents, trailers, and other areas where animals may be housed at a BEST sanctioned show, prepared for the show, or transported to or from the show.

EXHIBITOR CODE OF CONDUCT

All BEST and non-BEST exhibitors, their family members and others acting on the behalf of the exhibitor must display good sportsmanship and act in a courteous manner at all BEST sanctioned shows. Unsportsmanlike conduct will be referred to the OCA BEST Committee for appropriate action, if the committee deems necessary. Unsportsmanlike conduct may include but is not limited to physical actions, threats, or outbursts of profanity. Committee action is not limited to the following but may result in the exhibitor found in violation to lose points for a show, lose multiple show points, and/or be barred from current or future participation in the BEST program and BEST sanctioned shows. The decision of the BEST Committee regarding the unsportsmanlike conduct shall be final.

Buckeye Breeders Series

The Buckeye Breeders Series (BBS) BEST points division, formerly known as the Best of the Buckeye program, features cattle bred in Ohio and runs throughout the BEST show season.



Only registered cattle that were bred, born, and raised by an Ohio breeder are eligible. Crossbreds are not eligible to participate in the BBS. Beginning with the AGR Holiday Classic and continuing at every BEST show throughout the season, cattle entered in the BBS program will have their own separate set of points that will run parallel to the BEST program, like the Novice and Bred & Owned Divisions whose points are a subset of their regular class points. The program will end at the Ohio Beef Expo and will recognize both breeders and exhibitors of the top placing BBS cattle at the OCA BEST Awards Banquet on May 6, 2023. The BBS program will not be a part of the Ohio State Fair.

For 2022-2023 there is an additional \$25.00 one-time per head nomination fee for BBS animals to be eligible to participate in BEST and accumulate BEST points. The Ohio breeder of the BBS animal has the first responsibility to pay the \$25.00 BBS nomination fee for any animals they have sold to juniors at ohiocattle.org under the BBS tab. OR the BEST exhibitor may pay the \$25.00 BBS nomination, if it has not already been paid by the breeder, in addition to the \$60.00 per head one-time BEST nomination fee, when they complete their online BEST nomination.

Out-of-state juniors who purchase Ohio BBS cattle will be eligible to participate in BEST and exhibit them at all BEST sanctioned shows, compete for points and over-all year-end awards, providing they meet all other program eligibility requirements. This change will provide Ohio breeders of BBS cattle increased marketing and recognition opportunities for their Ohio bred and born registered cattle.

Eligibility requirements for out-of-state BEST BBS participants include meeting BEST age qualifications. Their immediate family must be current OCA members. They must make a one-time \$60.00 per head BEST nomination and have a current Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification. To be eligible to exhibit at the 2023 Ohio Beef Expo, out-of-state juniors must have exhibited in at least one previous BEST sanctioned show for the 2022-2023 show season. Out-of-state BEST BBS participants may only show BBS eligible cattle at the Ohio Beef Expo.

Out-of-state juniors will be eligible to compete in BEST showmanship competitions, prior to the Ohio Beef Expo, but are not eligible to accumulate BEST points for showmanship placings. Showmanship at the 2023 Ohio Beef Expo will be open to Ohio exhibitors only.

For cattle to be eligible for BBS points, they must be registered and bred by an Ohio cattleman. ET calves and calves out of purchased bred cows are eligible if they list an Ohio cattleman as the breeder. Note that if BBS eligible cattle are registered in multiple owners' names, as-long-as one of the owners listed on the registration paper is from Ohio, the animal is eligible for nomination.

For the Ohio Beef Expo BEST Show following each breed division champion drive there will be a BBS champion drive. The top 2 animals from each class will come back immediately following the breed's final drive to show for the BBS final drive.

The judge will pick the top 2 heifers and steers in each breed division with additional premiums paid to the Champion and Reserve Champion BBS cattle in each division. Breed associations may make additional premium donations to their breed's BBS cattle. All breed association premium donations will be recognized. BBS placings and points will coincide with the show's original class placings.

BBS PERKS

All BBS exhibitors will be entered in a separate drawing for a trailer sponsored by EBV at the BEST Banquet. There will be an additional drawing at the banquet specifically for BBS breeders for the chance to win a John Deere gator sponsored by AgPro.



Stockmanship Division

The OCA BEST program's Stockmanship Division, provides a pathway for youth to participate in the BEST program without showing an animal. It expands BEST participants' knowledge of cattle and provides youth with an opportunity to showcase their abilities and talents outside of the show ring.



The Stockmanship division is comprised of beef industry-focused events and competitions that are in conjunction with BEST shows. This division of the BEST program is open to all Ohio youth regardless of whether they show cattle during the BEST show season. If an existing BEST participant would like to sign up for the Stockmanship division, they will do so under their BEST user profile at best.ohiocattle.org for no additional cost outside of existing cattle nominations. If age-eligible individuals would like to participate in the Stockmanship division but don't have cattle enrolled in the 2022-2023 BEST program, they should create their username and profile at best.ohiocattle.org (if they don't have an existing account either BEST or non-BEST) and elect to participate in the Stockmanship division. Non-cattle exhibiting BEST Stockmanship participants will need to have a current \$75 family OCA membership and will pay a one-time participation fee of \$60. Individuals may sign up for the Stockmanship program at any point throughout the season

*Individual contests may prorate the number of awards based on the number of participants.

Stockmanship contests will include their own registration and rules for each event and top-placing awards will be given at each competition. Please note that individual and team awards for qualifying events will be presented at the contest. Overall Stockmanship awards will be presented at the OCA BEST Awards Banquet on May 6, 2023. The top five individuals in the following divisions will be recognized: Beginner, Junior, Novice, Intermediate and Senior. Age breaks will follow that of the BEST program's showmanship rules. To qualify for the end of year Stockmanship awards, the participant must have completed two contests, be a current OCA member by January 1, 2023 or at the time of Stockmanship sign-up and have completed their Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification. Stockmanship participants may complete their BQA at any session offered at a BEST sanctioned show, online at BQA.org or at YQCA.org.

A cumulative points scale for the Stockmanship division will be utilized for overall finishes and end of year point tabulation.

The Stockmanship competition schedule is as follows:

- Prepared Speaking – Scarlet and Grey
Saturday, January 7, 2023 @ 9 AM
- Salesmanship – Clark County Cattle Battle
Saturday, January 21, 2023 @ 9 AM

- Fitting Contest – DTS Cupid Classic
Friday, January 27, 2023 @ 6 PM
- Cattlemen's Challenge – Mardi Gras Masquerade
Saturday, February 11, 2023 @ 9 AM
- Judging Contest – Ohio Beef Expo
Friday, March 17, 2023

Beef Quality Assurance

All BEST participants, including out-of-state BEST BBS participants, must have a current BQA certification when they sign-up for the program and/or complete a BQA certification to be in the BEST points standings following their first show, to be eligible to receive BEST awards and to be listed in the BEST final points. BQA certification is available through in-person trainings at BEST shows, bqa.org or yqca.org. BEST participants that attended an in-person BQA training last BEST season (2021-2022) are certified for three years from the date they attended training.



IN-PERSON TRAINING

To complete the BQA requirement in-person, BEST participants need to attend one of four planned BQA sessions that will be held at:

AGR Holiday Classic - Sunday, December 11 @ 7 a.m.
Scarlet & Gray Midwest Showdown - Friday, January 6 @ 6 p.m.
DTS Cupid Classic - Saturday, January 28 @ 7 a.m.
Ohio Beef Expo - Friday, March 17 - Time TBA

BEST participants are required to attend the entire BQA session, from beginning to end, to receive documentation of attendance. County level (Extension / 4-H / FFA) BQA programs do not transfer for the BEST QA requirement. Attendance at the BEST BQA program during any BEST sanctioned show MAY meet the exhibitor's county level QA requirement; however, exhibitors are responsible for checking with their county Extension educator to see if the QA offered by the BEST program will be accepted in their respective county. BEST participants MAY still be required to attend their own county level QA program to participate in their county fair.

****The BEST Program DOES NOT accept county level QA to qualify for the BEST program's requirement. ****

ONLINE TRAINING

To complete the BQA requirement online, BEST participants may complete the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) course (modules and test) for their appropriate age or the modules at BQA.org. The online options can be found under <https://www.ohiocattle.org/best/online-bqa>.

YQCA.org (ONLY GOOD FOR ONE YEAR)

If the participant chooses to use YQCA.org, there is a cost of \$12 per online test and that payment can be made through YQCA upon registering for the online course. ****Please note – 4-H participants that have a current 4Honline / LearnGrow.com account may use that log-in information to register for the online YQCA course.**** Online YQCA test results will be provided to OCA via YQCA administrators to credit BEST participants with fulfilling their BQA requirement.

Please note that several national exhibitions and multi-specie shows are requiring QA to participate in their shows. Visit <http://yqca.org> for a complete list of shows and exhibitions that accept the YQCA program for their QA requirement.

BQA.org (GOOD FOR 3 YEARS and must still complete county QA requirement each year)

If the exhibitor chooses to complete the online training at BQA.org, they will create a username / password if they haven't already done so.

Scholarships

The BEST program offers a scholarship program based on academics and extracurricular activities for high school juniors and seniors or older pursuing a post-high school degree. Only 2022-2023 OCA BEST and Stockmanship participants are eligible to apply for BEST scholarships. Scholarships will be awarded to participants pursuing an Ag related degree and may be awarded to applicants who are entering a non-Ag related field of study (based on the number of applications). All scholarship applicants will also be required to submit an essay along with their scholarship application. The scholarship essay topic will be predetermined and posted on the OCA website. BEST scholarships are due on April 1 and will be awarded at the BEST Awards Banquet on May 6, 2023.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

The BEST program will also sponsor a photography contest with four categories including: BEST Shows & Activities, Landscapes, People, and Around the Farm. There will be four divisions of awards for the photography contest based on the showmanship age divisions plus an adult division. Adults are eligible to enter the photography contest for a fee of \$10 per person which must be submitted by the April 1 entry deadline by contacting the OCA office. ALL Photography Contest entries MUST be submitted electronically by April 1 of the current BEST year. Digital submissions must be high resolution (2 MB or greater) and submitted through the OCA website. BEST photography contest awards will be presented at the end of the year BEST Program Awards Banquet.

Be a Leader

BEST JR. REPS

The BEST program promotes the development of leadership skills for industry youth. 2022-2023 youth BEST committee leaders are Payton Shepard of Henry County, Dawson Osborn of Highland County, Rachel O'Reilly of Geauga County, Gage Farrar of Jackson County, and Luke Schroeder of Defiance County. BEST Jr. Reps serve on the BEST committee and help coordinate events at BEST shows and events. Applications for the 2023-2024 BEST season can be found at www.ohiocattle.org and are due on April 1, 2023.

Community Service Projects

BEST participants take pride in being active in their communities. Since 2011 the program's pop tab drive has collected over one ton of pop tabs that provided over \$1,000 to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio. In addition, many BEST youth participate in the Celebrity Showdown held in conjunction with the Clark County Cattle Battle. In 2022, BEST youth helped raise nearly \$23,000 to benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio.

This year BEST participants will continue their community service projects with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio. Participants can collect pop tabs all through the year and bring them to the BEST banquet on May 6. The BEST participant that collects the most pop tabs will receive a \$500 show supply shopping spree!

Recognition and Awards

ANNUAL BEST BANQUET - MAY 6, 2023

Each year, over 800 BEST participants, their families and the BEST program's sponsoring partners gather in Columbus for a year-end dinner and awards banquet. This gives youth participants and their families a unique opportunity to interact with the BEST program's sponsoring partners. Nearly 300 awards are presented throughout the evening in different categories for points accumulated throughout the BEST season. Over \$150,000 in cash and prizes are awarded throughout a night of celebration for everyone in the program. Each BEST participant completing the season will receive a gift at the banquet.

BEST Show & Event Schedule

All shows will begin promptly at 8:00 a.m. each day

DEC. 9-11 • AGR HOLIDAY CLASSIC -

OPEN SHOW

Ohio Expo Center, Columbus, Ohio

Hosted by OSU Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity

SCHEDULE:

Saturday, December 10

Steers & Market Heifers Ring A & B, Showmanship (BEST ONLY)

Sunday, December 11

BQA Session at 7 a.m., Heifers Ring A & B

Information:

Caden Gurney 419.569.8286

Ty Raines 937.217.6121

JAN. 6-8 • SCARLET & GRAY MIDWEST SHOWDOWN

Ohio Expo Center, Columbus, Ohio

Hosted by OSU Saddle & Sirloin Club & Alpha Gamma Sigma

Fraternity

SCHEDULE:

Friday, January 6

BQA Session at 6 p.m.

Saturday, January 7

Heifers Ring A & B, Stockmanship Prepared Speaking Contest,
Showmanship

Sunday, January 8

Steers & Market Heifers Ring A & B

Information:

Dawson Osborn 937.725.1765

Ross McNary 937.896.2493

JAN. 20-22 • CELEBRITY SHOWDOWN & CLARK COUNTY CATTLE BATTLE

Clark County Fairgrounds, Springfield, Ohio

Hosted by Clark Co. Cattlemen's Association

SCHEDULE:

Friday, January 20

Celebrity Showdown Charity Event

Saturday, January 21

Heifers Ring A & B, Stockmanship Salesmanship Contest,
Showmanship

Sunday, January 22

Steers & Market Heifers Ring A & B

Information:

Linde Sutherly 937.875.0670

Becky Reed 937.925.2808

JAN 27-29 • DTS CUPID CLASSIC

Clark County Fairgrounds, Springfield, Ohio

Hosted by Delta Theta Sigma Fraternity – Wilmington College

SCHEDULE:

Friday, January 27

Stockmanship Fitting Contest 6 p.m.

Saturday, January 29

BQA Session at 7 a.m., Steers Market Heifers Ring A & B,
Showmanship

Sunday, January 30

Heifers Ring A & B

Information:

Mac Davis 937.825.2716

Mason Potter 937.938.0897

FEB. 10-12 • MARDI GRAS MASQUERADE

Ohio Expo Center, Columbus, Ohio

Fayette County Cattle Feeder's Association and Marion County
Cattlemen's Association

SCHEDULE:

Saturday, February 11

Steers, Market Heifers Ring A & B, Stockmanship Cattlemen's Challenge Contest, Showmanship

Sunday, February 12

Heifers Ring A & B

Information:

McKenzie Riley 740.505.8936

Ben Dickson 740.361.2154

MARCH 3-5 • HOLMES COUNTY PREVIEW SHOW

Holmes County Fairgrounds, Millersburg, Ohio

Hosted by Holmes County Beef Committee

SCHEDULE:

Saturday, March 4

Heifers Ring A & B, Showmanship

Sunday, March 5

Steers & Market Heifers Ring A & B

Information:

Phil Schlabach 330-231-6030

Brian Giauque 330-201-8800

MARCH 17-19 • OHIO BEEF EXPO

Ohio Expo Center, Columbus, Ohio

Hosted by the Ohio Cattlemen's Association

SCHEDULE:

Friday, March 17

Judging Contest, BQA, Showmanship

Saturday, March 18

Market Animal Show

Sunday, March 19

Heifer Show

Information:

614-873-6736, cattle@ohiocattle.org, www.ohiobeefexpo.com

MAY 6 • BEST AWARDS BANQUET

Ohio State Fairgrounds - Columbus, OH

Information:

614-873-6736, cattle@ohiocattle.org, www.ohiocattle.org

Get involved with the Ohio Cattlemen's Association!

SCHOLARSHIPS

Several college scholarships are available to beef industry youth through the Ohio Cattlemen's Foundation. Applications are available at ohiocattle.org.

INTERNSHIPS

The Ohio Cattlemen's Association offers many internships for college students throughout the year. A scholarship will be awarded to each intern and the intern can earn credit while completing the internship. For more information regarding specific internships go to ohiocattle.org.

TAGGED FOR GREATNESS

Support the Cattlemen's Foundation with a Personalized Beef Plate, now available through the Bureau of Motor Vehicles! Purchase your Ohio Cattlemen's beef license plate today and show your support for Ohio's youth. The Beef plate will cost \$25 annually in addition to regular registration fees. With each Ohio Beef license plate sold, \$15 of the total cost will go directly to the Ohio Cattlemen's Foundation to be used for youth scholarships and educational programs. Apply for these scholarships by October 31 of the current calendar year.



For information on how to purchase an Ohio Beef license plate, visit your local branch of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles or call the BMV at 1-866-OPLATES or visit www.OPLATES.com.

2022-2023



AGR
HOLIDAY CLASSIC
Columbus, Ohio
Dec. 9-11, 2022

SCARLET & GRAY
MIDWEST SHOWDOWN
Columbus, Ohio
Jan. 6-8, 2023



CLARK COUNTY
CATTLE BATTLE
Springfield, Ohio
Jan. 20-22, 2023



DTS CUPID CLASSIC
Springfield, Ohio
Jan. 27-29, 2023



HOLMES COUNTY
PREVIEW
Millersburg, Ohio
March 3-5, 2023



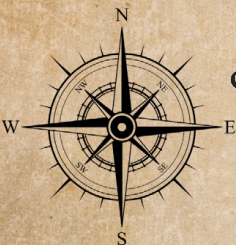
MARDI GRAS
MASQUERADE
Columbus, Ohio
Feb. 10-12, 2023



OHIO BEEF EXPO
Columbus, Ohio
March 17-19, 2023



BEST BANQUET
Columbus, Ohio
May 6, 2023



OHIO CATLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

WWW.OHIOCATTLE.ORG

614-873-6736

CATTLE@OHIOCATTLE.ORG

