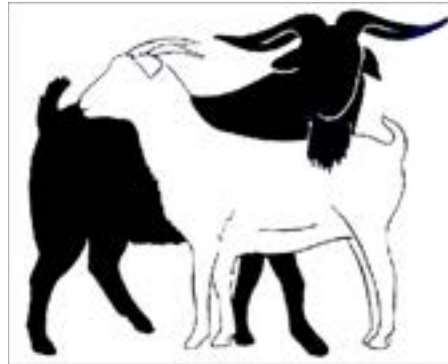


CGA Youth Showmanship Guide



Putting Your Best Hoof Forward

Cashmere Showmanship classes are a competitive opportunity to present your goat's best features and qualities, while diminishing any possible flaws. It's a place for sharing your enthusiasm for cashmere, and showcasing your knowledge about cashmere goat husbandry.



A 1936 NYC Buck "Beauty Competition" in Central Park. This lineup includes some elegant fiber-type bucks. Image from Times Wide World Photo.

Parts of a Cashmere Goat

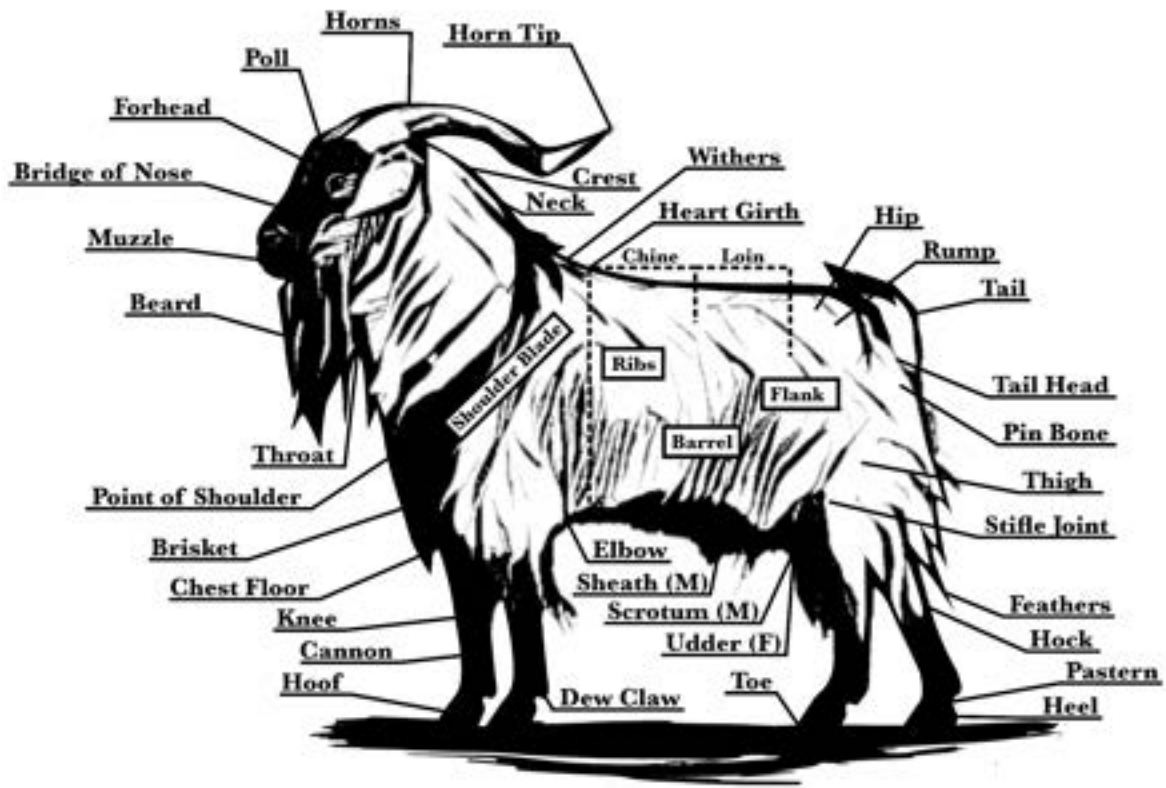


Figure 1.

The Ideal American Cashmere Goat



Figure 2.1. Cashmere Buck



Figure 2.2. Cashmere Doe



Figure 2.3. Cashmere Kid

Coat Types



Figure 2.4. A Cashmere goat with short guard hair and a Cashmere goat with long guard hair. Both goats are properly groomed for the show ring, according to their natural coat types.

In the Show Ring



Equipment



Figure 3. Goats may be exhibited in a well fitting show collar, a show halter, or a cable halter.

Leading

- The handler should hold the collar or halter lead in the right hand, with the palm facing forwards. The handler's left arm should be relaxed at their side
- Enter the ring in a clockwise direction
- The handler should lead the goat, walking abreast of the goat's front legs.
- Walk slowly and smoothly, keeping a constant pace.
- If the goat resists walking, place one hand on the goat's rump or tail, to encourage it to move forward.
- The goat should be kept between the handler and the judge at all times.
- When lining up, maintain even spacing between goats in the ring.
- When changing sides, the handler should always walk around the front of the goat. Handlers should never cross behind their goat, while in the ring. See Figure 4.
- Follow any special directions given by the judge or announcer.



Figure 4.

Lining Up



It's important to move and position your goat in a well ordered manner within the show ring. Figures 1-9, (republished from Brian R. Faris, Ph.D., *Market Goat Showmanship from Start to Finish*, Kansas State University, November 2012.) show a bird's eye view of some common showmanship lineups, and protocols for moving within the ring.

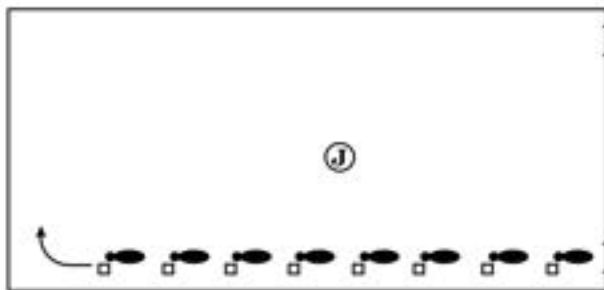


Figure 5.1. Animals entering the show ring on a profile. Notice the animal is always between the showman and judge.

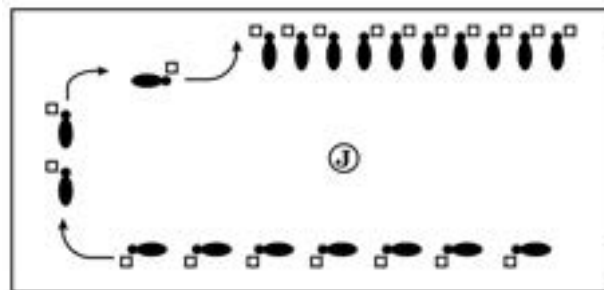


Figure 5.2. Animals entering the show ring and line up on a rear-view. Notice the position of the judge and showman.

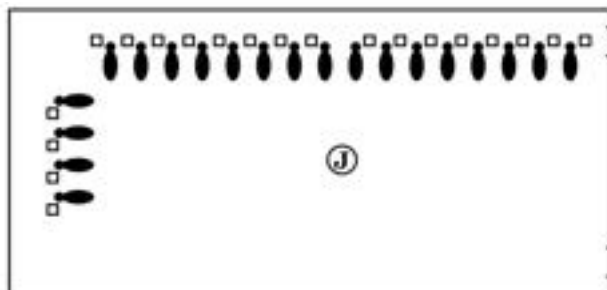


Figure 5.3. All animals lined up on a rear-view.

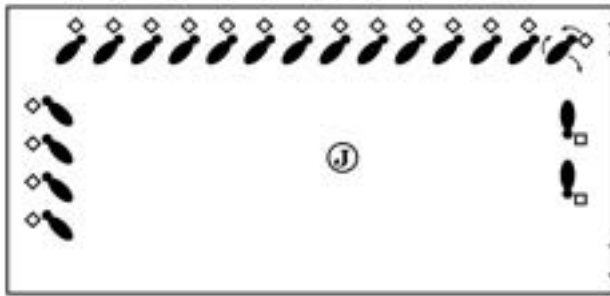


Figure 5.4. All animals begin to move to a profile or side-view. Move to the animal's left side, push their front end away from you, and follow the goat in front of you.

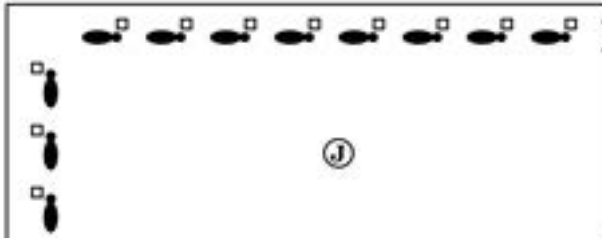


Figure 5.5. All animals lined up on a profile or side-view.

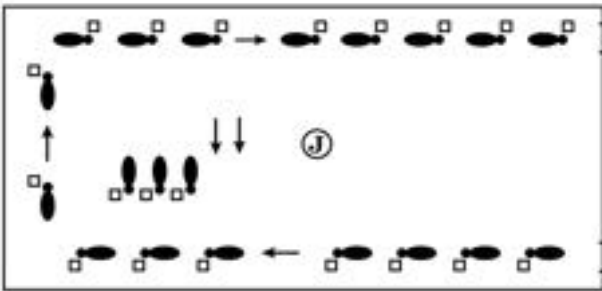


Figure 5.6. As animals move out of line to another location, move animals forward to fill gaps.

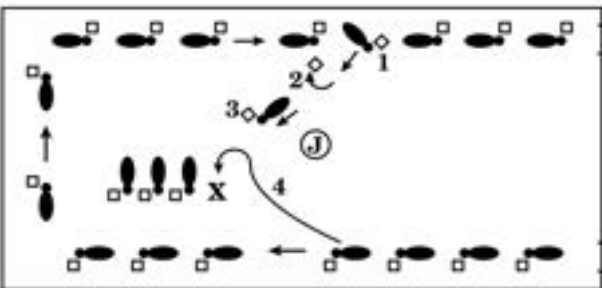


Figure 5.7. Showman 1 (top) 1) Push the goat out of line, 2) move around the front of the goat to change sides, and 3) proceed to the designated location. Showman 2 (bottom) 4) Push the goat out of line and proceed to the designated spot in line.

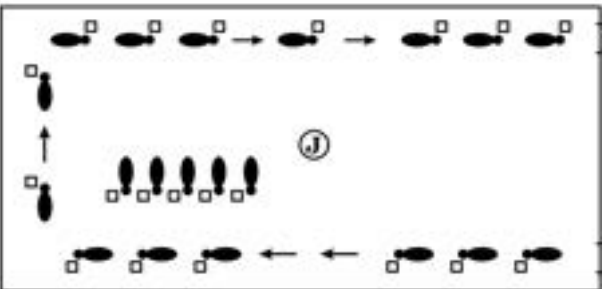


Figure 5.8. Completed moves from Diagram 7. Arrows show the need to fill gaps that have been left by the goats in the middle.

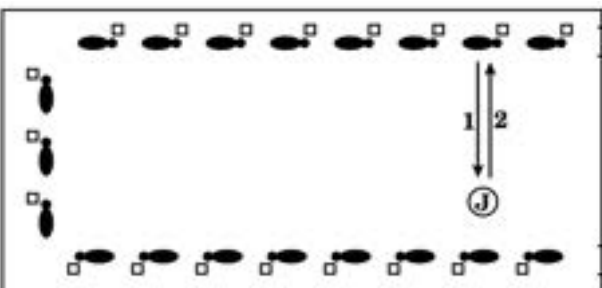


Figure 5.9. Move animals directly to and from a judge. Do not move in half circles or out of line.

Setting Up and Posing



- Keep control of your goat with one hand under the jaw or with the collar or halter.
- Use the other hand to position the goat, and set the goat's feet.
- Always set the rear legs first and then position the front legs.
- Handlers may pick up the goat's legs to set them. Legs should be picked up and set down in one smooth motion. The goat will fight less if you pick up the leg above the knee or hock.
- When the goat is set, have it stand with its head and neck high and ears pointing up and forward.

Finding the Correct Show Stance

Featuring 2-year-old wether: Ukulele.

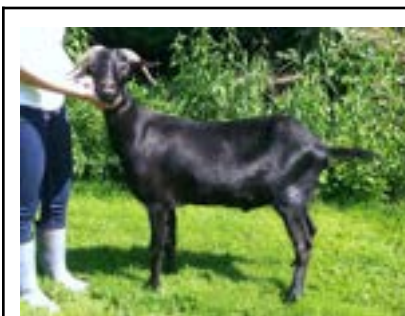


Figure 6.1. Hind legs positioned too far forwards.



Figure 6.2. Hind legs parked out just behind the hips.



Figure 6.3. Hind legs parked out too far back.



Figure 6.4. Front legs too close together.



Figure 6.5. Front legs squarely under shoulders.



Figure 6.6. Front legs too far apart.



Figure 6.7. Hind legs too close together.



Figure 6.8. Hind legs squarely under hips.

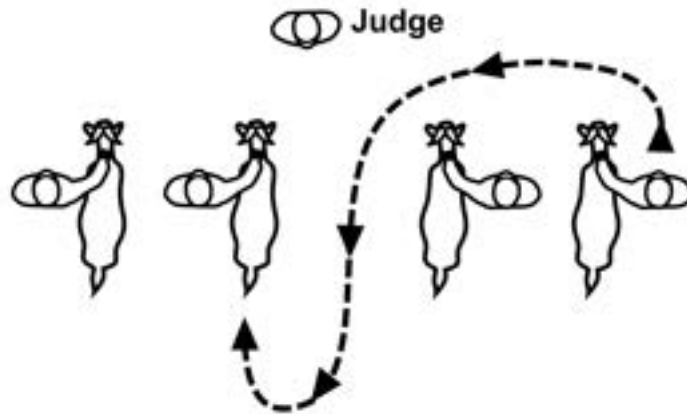


Figure 6.9. Hind legs spread too far apart.

Changing Places

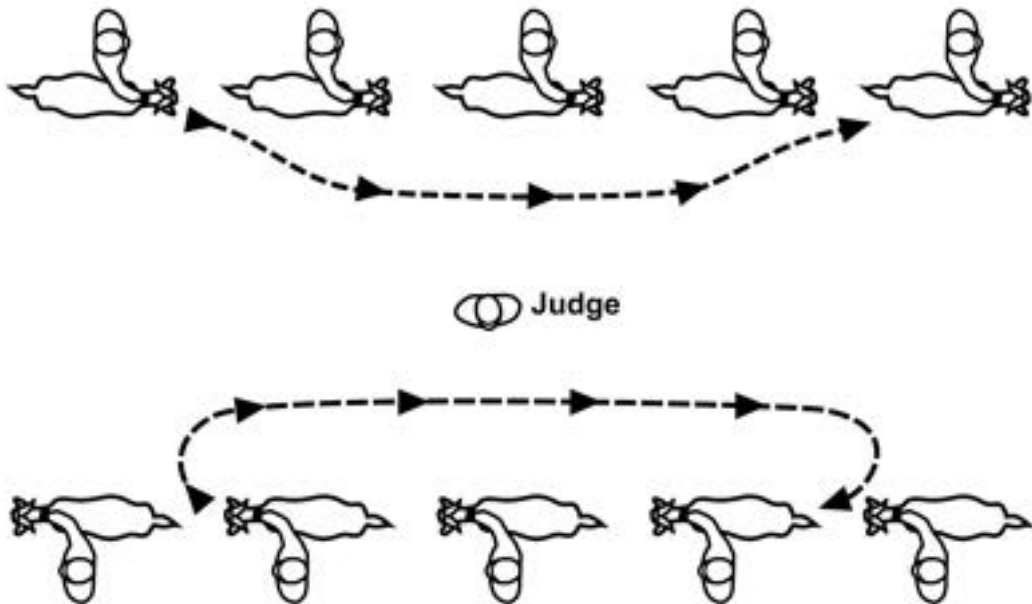
If a judge asks you to change places in a side-by-side lineup, lead your goat forward out of the line, walk along the line, to the place indicated by the judge. Next, cross through the line, make a U-turn, walk back into the lineup, and pose your goat. See figure 7.

Figure 7.



If a judge asks you to change places in a head-to-tail lineup, lead your goat out of the line. Walk along the lineup, keeping to the side of the lineup where the judge is standing. Remember to keep your goat between you and the judge. Figure 8 shows an exhibitor moving from 5th to 2nd place in the upper lineup, and an exhibitor moving from 2nd to 4th place, in the lower lineup.

Figure 8.



Sample Showmanship Questions

1. Q: What does CGA stand for?
A: Cashmere Goat Association
2. Q: What is the gestation period for a Cashmere goat?
A: 5 months or 150 days.
3. Q: What is the normal healthy temperature of a goat?
A: 101.5°F - 103.5°F
4. Q: What is the official USDA identification for goats that are untattooed and unregistered?
A: Scrapie tags
5. Q: What is another term for Cashmere fiber?
A: Down
6. Q: What is the ideal Calcium and Phosphorus ratio, for feeding wethered Cashmere goats?
A: 2:1
7. Q: Ideally, approximately what percentage of a goat's diet should be crude protein?
A. 12 – 16%
8. Q: Where does the name "cashmere" come from?
A: From the Kashmir region, along the border of India and Pakistan.
9. Q: What is one function of a Cashmere goat's horns?
A: Temperature regulation, maintaining his/her social position, or defense.
10. Q: What are two ways Cashmere Fiber is harvested from goats?
A: Combing and Shearing
11. Q: How many points on the scorecard have to do with the appearance of your goat?
A: 40

Open-ended questions:

12. Q: Name something that can be made from 100% cashmere fiber.
13. Q: Name one product, not including fiber, that can come from a cashmere goat?
14. Q: How do you condition your goat for a show?
15. Q: How old is your goat?
16. Q: What do you feed your goat?
17. Q: How much does your goat weigh?
18. Q: How much Cashmere fiber does your goat produce in a season?
19. Q: What is your goat's best quality?

Sample Score Card

| CASHMERE SHOWMANSHIP | POINTS | TOTAL |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| APPEARANCE OF THE ANIMAL | | 40 |
| Condition and Thriftiness: Showing proper growth and development for age and gender, with a healthy body condition score. | 10 | |
| Hooves: Trimmed so that the goat moves and stands in an easy natural manner. Horns: Should look sturdy, relatively smooth and lustrous. | 10 | |
| Coat: Full, Natural looking and silky. Any trimming or shearing should be neatly done, and have an inconspicuous, natural appearance. | 10 | |
| Grooming: Goats should be neatly brushed, and as free from stains, chaff, and other debris, as possible. | 10 | |
| APPEARANCE OF THE EXHIBITOR | | 10 |
| Clothes and General Appearance: Exhibitors should look neat, tidy, and business like. White clothes are preferred. | 10 | |
| SHOWING IN THE RING | | 50 |
| Leading equipment: Goats should be led with a properly fitting collar, small link chain, or a properly fitting halter. Equipment should be slim and inconspicuous. Leading method: Goats are led at a slow walk, with the animal's head held high. The gait should look effortless and elegant, and the goat should respond readily to any cues. Handlers should walk on the left side of their goats, with the collar or lead held in their right hand, or they should walk on the opposite side of the goat from the judge. Handlers and goats should follow the instructions of the judge, announcer, or ringmaster, when entering and moving about the ring. | 10 | |
| Posing and showing: The goat should be positioned between the handler and the judge, as much as possible. Exhibitor stance: Stand or kneel to allow for easy observation of the goat, and avoid any exaggerated positions. Goat stance: Pose the goat with his or her head held high. Position the front hooves squarely under the chest, with the hind legs slightly spread and parked out behind. Switching Sides: When the judge is examining a goat, the handler should cross in front of the goat, to remain on the opposite side of the goat, from the judge. Re-entering the lineup: When changing placing in a side-by-side lineup, lead the goat forward out of the line, along the line to the place indicated, then back through the line, finally making a U-turn to get into position. When changing placing in a head-to-tail sequence, lead the goat out of the lineup, along the line on the side next to the Judge, and move into position. Other handlers must make room to accommodate these changes in the lineup. | 15 | |
| Showing to advantage: Goats should be shown in such a way as to minimize as many conformation defects as possible. Handlers may be asked questions about Cashmere goat husbandry, conformation evaluation, fiber production, and the CGA. They should be prepared with accurate and knowledgeable answers. | 15 | |
| Poise, Courtesy, and Sportsmanship: Handlers should be alert to their surroundings and their goat, while keeping an eye on the judge's position at all times. A courteous sportsmanlike attitude is a must, and handlers should continue to show their goat to his or | 10 | |

| CASHMERE SHOWMANSHIP | POINTS | TOTAL |
|--|---------------|--------------|
| APPEARANCE OF THE ANIMAL | | 40 |
| Condition and Thriftiness: Showing proper growth and development for age and gender, with a healthy body condition score. | 10 | |
| her best advantage for the full duration of their time in the ring. | | |
| TOTAL POINTS | | 100 |

Sources:

<https://cemonterey.ucanr.edu/files/197374.pdf>

<https://cemonterey.ucanr.edu/files/197372.pdf>

<https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF3064.pdf>

CGA Goat Showmanship