

HOROWHENUA BOYS AND GIRLS AGRICULTURAL CLUBS

LAMB AND KID COMPETITION RULES & GUIDELINES

- 1 **Birth Date of Lambs & Kids** - Lambs/kids should be born from 15th July onwards.
- 2 **Group Final Judging** - All lambs/kids at school judging are eligible to compete on Group Final Day.
- 3 **Presentation** - Lambs may be brushed but must not be washed. Light dagging and docking is allowed but not crutching. Kids may be washed and brushed, but is optional.
- 4 **Lamb/Kid Competition: Competitors must rear, feed and groom the animals themselves.**

Best pet lamb/kid - This is a competition designed to show the relationship between the lamb and its owner and whether it has been fed and reared correctly.

- a) **Leading** - You will be asked to lead your lamb/kid in a clockwise direction around the ring which should be at least 10 metres square. The lamb/kid should walk alongside the competitor's right leg without having to be pulled or pushed. A nice neat collar should be around the lamb's/kid's neck with a short lead of about 1 m length of suitable material attached to it with a snap hook. (No chains or bulky ropes).
- b) **Following** - Lamb/Kid should follow competitor either alongside right leg or immediately behind.
- c) **Come when called** - Lamb/kid should be held by steward while owner moves to Side of ring (at least 5m for senior competitors). The competitor then calls the lamb/kid in a loud voice and at the same time it is released by the steward. The lamb/kid should immediately run to its owner.
- d) **Condition** - The lamb/kid will be judged on it's condition, i.e. well nourished and general appearance. Freedom from parasites, etc. The age of the lamb/kid to be taken into consideration.

Hints for children to build a relationship with there lamb for this section:

Right from the first day you must start to form a close bond between the lamb/kid and yourself. When you feed your lamb/kid, call it by name in a loud clear voice. When you go for a walk encourage your lamb/kid to go with you. When you call, keep still and take your time. Just wait with the bottle, keep calling and try to avoid making quick movements. All animals are born nervous of strange and unusual happenings but once you have gained your lamb/kid's confidence and friendship it will then respond with its own affection.

Care and Rearing

- a) The lamb/kid will firstly be judged on its condition.
- b) The lamb will secondly be judged on the amount and effectiveness of the grooming and overall cleanliness.
- c) Kids grooming - Washing and brushing of kids is optional, but won't be taken into account when judged.

Hints for grooming

Brushing can begin when the lamb/kid is about one month old. Brush it gently at first until it becomes used to its wool being pulled. Brush on the back and sides and then down the legs; under the neck, especially around the collar area, lastly don't forget the head. It is permissible to use a wet cloth around the mouth and it is a good idea to wipe the lambs mouth at the finish of each feed.

Lambs **must never be washed** or the lamb will be disqualified. Lambs/kids must be kept free of all internal and external parasites, i.e. worms or lice.

The cleaning of ears is not necessary. The brushing and cleaning the underside of the lamb is not necessary and will not be considered as part of the judging.

Child needs to groom all areas of the lamb that the judge can see without turning the lamb over.

Champion Lamb and Kid

Champion lamb to be selected from first places in Junior and Senior Best Pet Lambs.

Champion kid to be selected from first places in Junior and Senior Best Pet Kids.

Reserve Champion Lamb to be selected from first place-getter not selected for championship and second placed lamb to Champion Best Pet Lamb.

Reserve Champion Kid to be selected from first place-getter not selected for championship and second placed kid to Champion Best Pet Kid.

- 5 Housing** - Shelter and shade should be available to the lamb/kid all the time from rain and hot sun. Fresh water should also be available.
- 6 Footwear** - Protective footwear be worn in all animal judging. Gumboots not recommended.

BADGE AWARD SCHEME

The purpose of the scheme is to foster the continuing interest in the club's activities and to give some tangible recognition to those who have participated in the club's competitions for many years, often without success.

Conditions for the award are as follows:

- Satisfactory completion of four projects over a minimum of three years. In only one of those years can two projects be completed for the badge.
- Projects which qualify are calf, yearling, lamb or kid rearing projects and the garden competitions. No project will count if not completed to a satisfactory standard.
- That the final project be accompanied by a full written record of the rearing of the animal, or of the attention given to the garden.

Record books are essential in the garden competition and we encourage this with the animal projects as well. If your school does not have one of their own, this can be provided by the club. This is only essential when children are finishing the badge award scheme.

Schools are to judge the record books from all animal sections and send the top three to Group Final Day for judging.

General Hints for Lamb/Kid Competitors:

Feeding - An approximate guide to feeding quantities.

New born lambs/kids - if an orphan lamb/kid has not received colostrums within the first few hours of life a substitute is essential. Specialised lamb/kid milk powder with additives are available which can take the place of colostrum. Cow's colostrums milk is also a suitable substitute. If these are unavailable the following mixture can be made up. One litre warm cow's milk, one beaten egg and one small teaspoon of cod liver oil. Shake mixture before feeding. This mixture is fed for maximum of first 36 hours.

Many commercial milk powder instructions are designed for farmers that can only manage to feed orphan lambs for survival. We recommend more frequent feeding for pet lambs and kids. They will do better on smaller feeds more often over a longer period. We understand this is often a challenge when many parents are working. The following is a guideline and will need to be amended to fit your situation. Also lamb size and the amount of grass available to the lamb often changes feed quantities. If you are unsure of feed quantities, please phone your school and they can contact an advisor.

New born lambs/kids - generally start on 150mls x 5 times daily

3 - 7 days old - 200-250mls x 4 times daily

7 days - 3 or 4 weeks - 250mls-300mls x 4 times daily

3-4 weeks - 2 months - 300mls-350mls x 3 or 4 times daily

Over 2 months - 400mls x 2 or 3 times daily until weaning.

To wean it is a good idea to start dropping milk feeds for water.

ENJOY YOUR LAMBS AND KIDS

This is a picture of how the school should set up their lamb ring. It should be lined along the sides and back of ring with scrim.

