

EVALUATE YOUR COUNTY FAIR JUDGING

When the day is done, you'll need to complete and sign the judge's sheet. The recording secretary will tell you if there are any questions about placings. If changes need to be made on the judge's sheet, the secretary will draw a line through any improperly recorded numbers and enter the proper placing. You'll need to initial all of these changes before you leave. You'll also need to sign an affidavit listing the departments and classes that you judged.

Before you leave the judging area, thank the superintendent, recording secretary and any assistants for their help. Give feedback to the superintendent about the day. What could the fair do differently next time to make your job as judge easier or better, or to make it better for exhibitors? What changes would you suggest to the county fair premium list? Offer to make written comments and suggestions if the county fair would like them.

Usually you will then be directed by the superintendent to go to the junior fair secretary's office to sign a form verifying what you judged and for how long. Be prepared to give your travel mileage to the fairgrounds and your judge's card. Sometimes you'll get paid then for your judging. Other times your check will be mailed to you. How much will you get paid? Like everything else, that varies from county to county. You can expect to get paid between \$75 and \$125, depending upon how many hours you worked and how far you had to drive. Some counties pay in one lump sum for a half or full day of judging; others pay for mileage up to a certain amount. The pay is not great but the rewards are. There's an effort now to increase the amounts paid for judging, so perhaps these totals will grow.

If your judging day was a success, you can count on being asked back for a second or third year. Counties like to rotate judges every two or three years to expose exhibitors to new ideas and judging styles.

When you're driving home and alone with your thoughts, do a mental critique of your judging effort. When you get a chance, complete the self-evaluation form on the next page. Ask the county to assess your judging, too. Then, based on your feedback, make adjustments in your future judging efforts. Finally, send the county a thank you note and offer your services again next year.

That's it. You're done. Relax and be proud of the contribution you have made to the development of youth. Congratulations. Good job!

COUNTY FAIR JUDGE SELF-EVALUATION FORM

NAME _____ DATE _____

COUNTY FAIR _____ DEPARTMENT _____

Circle the number following each statement indicating how you feel about your performance in this area.

	Lowest		Highest		
	1	2	3	4	5
1. Was familiar with department rules.	1	2	3	4	5
2. Mentally visualized standards of excellence for each class and knew the subject matter.	1	2	3	4	5
3. Answered questions clearly and supported decisions with solid information.	1	2	3	4	5
4. Presented positive comments on exhibits.	1	2	3	4	5
5. Tactfully presented constructive criticism on exhibits.	1	2	3	4	5
6. Consistently left exhibitors with a positive feeling.	1	2	3	4	5
7. Displayed sincere interest in every youth.	1	2	3	4	5
8. Demonstrated understanding of individual differences among youth, as well as age-level expectations for skill and ability.	1	2	3	4	5
9. Made judging an educational experience for the audience (e.g., addressed comments to audience, held up examples, sought to involve audience).	1	2	3	4	5
10. Displayed positive attitude, remained open minded and made the judging experience an enjoyable one.	1	2	3	4	5
11. Approached judging in an organized manner (e.g., budgeted time, worked well with superintendents).	1	2	3	4	5
12. Developed quick rapport with exhibitors in face-to-face judging.	1	2	3	4	5

SUMMARY: