

Poultry Showmanship Presentation

Speak Clearly - Loudly

Be clean and well groomed, proper clothing, no jewelry.

Show the bird not yourself.

Study your project book. Showmanship is not only judged on your ability to check for disqualifications, but also your knowledge on care, feeding, breeds, varieties, diseases, etc.

*Be sure your bird is well groomed. If showing a solid colored bird with one or two miss colored feathers, pull the bad ones.

*Dress neatly. Speak clearly, make eye contact with the judge, don't slouch, avoid "umms & ahhs" and don't chew gum.

*Carry your bird properly to the table. Hold bird firmly, tuck head under arm to avoid exciting the bird when carrying.

*Explain each step to the judge as you evaluate your bird and note eliminations, faults and disqualifications.

INTRODUCTION

You and bird breed/classification/comb type, etc. History

HEAD

Examine head. Note comb, eyes, shape of head; and any defects present.

WING

Examine wings. Open either wing with free hand. To open the other wing, merely pass hand, palm up, over to that side. Grasp wing bow and fan out wing. (There is no need to transfer bird to other hand.) To note color, absence of feathers, slipped wings, split wings and twisted feathers.

BODY

Examine body plumage. Over back, on breast and body. To note color and quality, presence or absence of lice.

TAIL

Examine tail plumage. Give the tail piece a quick flip up and down. To detect color and feather quality.

FEET & LEGS

Examine shanks and feet. To note color, crooked toes, feather stubs between toes and on shanks.

BODY

Examine body. To note width and depth of body and amount of fleshing on body - also body defects.

POSE

Set the bird down and pose so the judge can see the overall picture of your bird.

ENDING

"I have completed my showmanship, do you have any questions?"

Video and podcasts are available on YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/user/companionanimals>

Rabbit Showmanship Presentation

Speak Clearly - Loudly Be clean and well groomed, proper clothing, no jewelry.

Show the rabbit not yourself.

Study your project book. Showmanship is not only judged on your ability to check for disqualifications, but also your knowledge on care, feeding, breeds, varieties, diseases, etc.

- *Be sure your rabbit is well groomed. Brush off loose fur, remove stains and clip nails.
- *Dress neatly. Speak clearly, make eye contact with the judge, don't slouch, avoid "umms & ahhs" and don't chew gum.
- *Carry your rabbit properly to the table. Hold rabbit firmly with both hands and support hind end.
- *Explain each step to the judge as you evaluate your rabbit and note eliminations, faults and disqualifications.
- *Re-pose your rabbit if necessary, know how to pivot your rabbit to change positions.

INTRODUCTION

Introduce you and your rabbit, breed, variety, sex, age (senior, intermediate, or junior), 4 or 6 class, body type, fur type.

INITIAL POSE

- properly pose your rabbit.
- check body for blemishes.
- check fur & color (markings appropriate to your breed).
- check for any spots on coat or hutch stains.
- *know proper weight, posing and varieties (colors) for your breed.
- *know your rabbit's body type (semi-arch, full arch, compact, commercial or cylindrical).
- *know your rabbit's fur type - rex, satin, angora, normal (flyback, rollback, standing).
- *know parts of the rabbit

EARS

- check for legible tattoo in left ear.
- check for ear mites (ear canker).
- check for poor ear carriage, tears and proper length.

TURN RABBIT ON BACK

EYES

- check for eye discharge, proper eye color & spots in eyes.

NOSE

- check for nasal discharge (snuffles) or scabs.

TEETH

- check for malocclusion (wolf or pegged teeth), and broken or missing teeth.

TOENAILS

- check for 4 toenails & 1 dewclaw on front feet.
- check for 4 toenails on back feet.
- check for missing toenails and proper nail color.

LEGS

- check for straightness of front legs.
- check for cow hocks on hind legs.
- check for sore hocks.

GENITALS

- check sex.
- check for vent disease (discharge, scabs or pimples on genitals).

BODY

- check for blemishes or lumps on belly and under chin.
- check for undercolor & proper markings.
- *know if a doe's dewlap is a disqualification for your breed.

TAIL

- check tail for straightness (screw tail) or missing portion of tail (bobbed tail).

FINAL POSE

Re-pose rabbit, smooth fur. Explain any faults your rabbit has (give comments on head, ears, shoulders, mid-section, hindquarters, fur, markings and color).

ENDING

"I have completed my showmanship, do you have any questions?"

Poultry Showmanship Steps

| Procedure | How Done | Reason |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Remove bird from exhibition coop. | Always head first with one hand over back, the other under body with fingers around legs. | Prevents excitement and struggle of bird to get away. |
| 2. Hold the bird. | Pick up bird by spreading your fingers and placing your hand palm up under the bird's breast as it faces you. As your palm touches the breast, you will find that the bird's legs will be between your fingers. As you lift the bird, gently grasp the legs by closing the fingers. You can now lift the bird without having it squirm and fight | Makes the bird feel at ease. Isn't so likely to struggle. The bird is easy to handle. |
| 3. Examine head. | Hold head of bird alert by prodding at the region of the wattles. | To note comb, eyes, shape of head; and any defects present. |
| 4. Examine wings. | Open either wing with free hand. To open the other wing, merely pass hand, palm up, over to that side. Grasp wing bow and fan out wing. (There is no need to transfer bird to other hand.) | To note color, absence of feathers, slipped wings, split wings and twisted feathers. |
| 5. Examine body plumage. | Over back, on breast and body. | To note color and quality, presence of lice. |
| 6. Examine tail plumage. | Give the tail piece a quick flip up and down. | For color and feather quality. To detect tail defects. |
| 7. Examine shanks and feet. | Place free hand on back of bird. Turn bird upside down. Back of bird should rest in the palm of the hand. | To note color, crooked toes, feather stubs between toes and on shanks. |
| 8. Examine body. | Hold as in No. 7 | To note width and depth of body and amount of fleshing on body - also body defects. |
| 9. Hand bird to judge. | Head first. | To let him check and verify and points he desires. |
| 10. Return bird to coop. | Head first. | To keep bird smooth and unruffled. |
| 11. Return to position by the coop. | Keep your bird on the alert until judge has made a decision . | Give judge better opportunity to see the bird. |