

Press Release

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2011 INTER-COUNTY 4-H DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING COMPETITION AN EXCEPTIONAL DAY IN THE EAST

Metcalfe, ON August 3, 2011 – Outstanding cattle, hardworking volunteers and bright participants from across Ontario made for a successful day for the 2011 Inter-County Judging competition, which took place at the Metcalfe Fairgrounds on Wednesday, August 3rd. In total, 85 eager participants took part in the competition, judging 9 classes of cattle from area farms throughout the day.

After a full day of dairy judging, participants convened in the main building where they enjoyed a wonderful chicken dinner served by committee and fair board volunteers, and waited to find out which four participants had won the ultimate prize of a 10-day all-expenses-paid trip to Madison, Wisconsin to attend the World Dairy Expo.

Following dinner, Jason French of the Ontario Holstein Branch thanked the sponsors and volunteers for making the day such a success. Jennifer Christie of John Deere Canada – the event's premiere sponsor – brought greetings from John Deere and wished the winning team the best of luck in Madison.

This year, Natalie Holtby of Durham West, Scott Groniger of Carleton, Mark Hazeleger of Oxford and Rachel Jebson, also of Durham West, will represent Ontario at World Dairy Expo where they will compete in the 90th National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest. They were among the top winners of the day and along with Bert Stewart and Murray Reissner, will travel to Madison for 10 days in October.

Justin Crowley, who has participated in the trip in the past, was High Individual winner in the senior category. Crowley also walked away with awards in High Reasons, High Holsteins and High Jerseys. High Individual Runner-up was Natalie Holtby.

The winning senior team was made up of Scott Groniger and Olivia Groniger, a brother-sister duo from Carleton, coached by Diane Groniger. Michael Lupton and Gary Hazeleger, coached by Dean Karn, were runners-up.

Participants started off the day by writing a quiz based on material from the "You be the Judge" manual, which all young judges use to hone their judging skills. After judging 9 classes of cows and heifers, participants broke for lunch before reconvening to give reasons. Seniors gave reasons on six of the classes they judged that morning, while juniors gave reasons on three of those same classes. Reason-takers were impressed by the quality of the reasons given, as well as the confidence of the participants.

In the Junior division, Josh Karn had a successful day, winning High Individual and High Jerseys. Karn was also runner-up in High Holsteins, High Placings, High Reasons and High Team, along with teammate Alex Vondervoort and coach Dean Karn. High Individual runner-up was Brent Sikma (Durham East), who along with his brother, Connor Sikma and coach Glenn Barkey, also won High Team.

This year's event was a resounding success and we would like to express our thanks to the fantastic group of volunteers and committee members who went above and beyond to make everything run smoothly! We also wish to thank the Ontario Dairy Youth Trust Fund and the event's premiere sponsor, John Deere, as well as the numerous sponsors and supporters who continue to make this event possible each year.

SENIOR DIVISION RESULTS

High Team and Coach - *Sponsored by Generations*

- Scott Groniger and Olivia Groniger, coached by Diane Groniger (Carleton)

Runner-Up High Team and Coach - *Sponsored by C.I.B.C.*

- Michael Lupton and Gary Hazeleger, coached by Dean Karn (Oxford)

High Individual – *Sponsored by Bert Stewart*

- Justin Crowley (Peterborough)

Runner-Up High Individual – *In Memory of Bill Dobbin*

- Natalie Holtby (Durham West)

High Placing – *Sponsored by Clarence Diefenbacher*

- Jill Brown (Lennox & Addington)

Runner-Up High Placing – *Sponsored by Fradon Holsteins*

- Scott Groniger (Carleton)

High Reasons – *Sponsored by Joe Snyder*

- Justin Crowley (Peterborough)

Runner-Up High Reasons – *Sponsored by Hessholm Holsteins*

- Rachel Jebson (Durham West)

High Holsteins – *Sponsored by Lowell Lindsay*

- Justin Crowley (Peterborough)

Runner-Up High Holsteins – *Sponsored by Riverdown Holsteins*

- Scott Groniger (Carleton)

High Jersey – *Sponsored by Joel Bagg*

- Justin Crowley (Peterborough)

Runner-Up High Jersey – *Sponsored by Bell City Jerseys*

- Tyler Yates (Durham West)

High Other Breeds – *Sponsored by Terry Beckett*

- Mark Hazeleger (Oxford)

Runner-Up High Other Breeds – *Sponsored by Murray Reissner*

- Gary Hazeleger (Oxford)

High Quiz – *Sponsored by Paul Larmer*

- Natalie Holtby (Durham West)

Runner-Up High Quiz – *Sponsored by Bill Edelstein*

- Ashley O'Hara (South Simcoe)

Rookie Award – *Sponsored by Ken Empey*

- Joel Stillman (Peterborough)

JUNIOR DIVISION RESULTS

High Team and Coach - *Sponsored by TD Canada Trust*

- Connor Sikma and Brent Sikma, coached by Glenn Barkey (Durham East)

Runner-Up High Team and Coach – *Sponsored by John Deere*

- Josh Karn and Alex Vondervoort, coached by Dean Karn (Oxford)

High Individual – *Sponsored by Phyllis MacMaster*

- Josh Karn (Oxford)

Runner-Up High Individual – *Sponsored by Geoff Innes*

- Brent Sikma (Durham East)

High Placing – *Sponsored by Joanne and Wayne Gregson*

- Chad Henderson (Carleton)

Runner-Up High Placing – *Sponsored by Ebyholme Farms*

- Josh Karn (Oxford)

High Reasons – *Sponsored by Steven Fraser*

- Ava Doner (Durham East)

Runner-Up High Reasons – *Sponsored by Earl Osborne*

- Josh Karn (Oxford)

High Holsteins – *In memory of Douglas Gregson*

- Chad Henderson (Carleton)

Runner-Up High Holsteins – *In memory of Douglas Gregson*

- Josh Karn (Oxford)

High Jersey – *Sponsored by R.J. Farms*

- Josh Karn (Oxford)

Runner-Up High Jersey – *Sponsored by Maple Leaf Jerseys*

- Chad Henderson (Carleton)

High Quiz – *Sponsored by Altona Lea Farms*

- Emily Linton (Durham East)

Runner-Up High Quiz – *Sponsored by Quinndale Holsteins*

- Deanna Ringelberg (Wentworth)

Rookie Award – *Sponsored by Ken Empey*

- Chad Henderson (Carleton)

Photographs available upon request.