



ICMJ

AUSTRALIAN INTERCOLLEGIATE
MEAT JUDGING ASSOCIATION

AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR INTERCOLLEGIATE MEAT JUDGING

OFFICIAL OPERATIONS HANDBOOK

Australian Junior ICMJ Technical Handbook Version 3.1 July 2019

The following manual is intended to provide an overview of the conduct of secondary schools contests. Specific details for each contest will be made available to schools within the program for that event.

1. Policies for competitors

1.1 Contest rules

a) Contestants will be assigned to groups and are required to stay in their groups throughout the contest. A group leader will be provided for each group of contestants. The group leader will enforce the rules of the contest and will keep the contestants of the class on which his/her group is working in an orderly arrangement.

b) Contestants must abide by the regulations and may be recommended for disqualification by the group leader for any violation upon warning and continued violation.

c) A clipboard and a pacer/mechanical-pencil will be all that is allowed into the competition chiller. All paper for placings, notes and questions etc. will be provided. No notes, pictures or other mechanical aids will be permitted into the contest.

d) There will be no talking during the contest to team mates or other contestants in groups. Any questions regarding procedures etc. must be referred to the group leader in charge or the competition manager.

e) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be required for each contestant – see Section 5.

h) Contestants will not be permitted to:

- Touch any part of any exhibit (carcase etc.)
- Use any mechanical aid, such as a measure or light, etc.
- Talk to fellow team members at any time during the contest
- Monopolise any one exhibit for an unreasonable length of time.
- Separate themselves from the class on which their group is working.
- In any way willfully obstruct the work of any other contestant.

Sportsman-like conduct is expected at all times, especially in crowded circumstances.

g) Contestants will NOT be permitted to:

- Wear any jewellery. All earrings, necklaces, bracelets etc. need to be removed prior to chiller entry, but preferably prior to abattoir arrival. Medical Alerts are acceptable but generally need to be worn tucked inside/under clothing as per the discretion of host processor.
- Wear nail polish. An abattoir is a food processing facility and nail polish is unacceptable.

In the unlikely event of disqualification of a student due to non-compliance to the above conditions, they will be removed from the contest chillers and the student will not be eligible for any prizes from any contest classes. Group leaders will follow a strict procedure in this event which will involve 1 warning before ejection from the contest by the competition manager.

As hygiene and entry requirements become stricter at processing facilities, the ICMJ committee will need to enforce these rules to ensure longevity of the school's program

1.2 Contest materials

Each contestant will receive all scoring cards prior to entry to the contest. The contestant should write their name, group letter and school on each scoring card when assigned. Nothing else may be written or drawn on the scoring cards prior to instruction by contest manager.

All judging-placing cards turned in by contestants must bear the following information:

- Contestant name
- Group code (A, B, C, D, E etc.)
- Class being judged (1, 2, 3, 4 etc.)
- School name

Only one placing or similar mark will be allowed on a card. If erasures or cross-outs are made, they must be clear to the scoring team. In cases where the intent is not clear, the scorer has the right to mark a 0 for the class.

Every class in the contest will have a 1-minute warning before the close of the class. Cards should be re-checked during that time and handed in promptly to group leaders when called for at the end of time.

2. Competition Class Overview

The final competition structure will be determined by each event closer to the date. Refer to event documentation for specific class detail. Competitions consist of beef carcass judging, beef primal judging, retail cut identification and wholesale primal identification classes. Judging classes require students to place, and answer questions on the class.

- All questions will be asked at the end of the time allocated for placing the classes
- Additional classes may be included to allow for manageable group sizes.

2.1 Class timing

All classes will be allocated 10 minutes.

Class Type	Time in (minutes)	Questions (minutes)	Total Time (minutes)
Placings & Questions (Judging classes)	7	3	10
Retail Cuts & Primal Identification	10	-	10

All placing cards will be collected at the completion of each class.

Examples of the score cards are available for download in the Schools Resources section of the website – <https://icmj.com.au/school-resources/> as are other resources for schools/junior contest.

Teachers are encouraged to discuss the judging cards prior to the competition with students to ensure cards are completed correctly.

Example of correct way to use scorecard

Carcases and primals will be numbered 1,2,3,4



Circle the box with the correct placings

BEEF PLACINGS & QUESTIONS

Name: _____

Group: _____

Contest Class: _____

School: _____

A	1234
B	1243
C	1324
D	1342
E	1423
F	1432
G	2134
H	2143
I	2314
J	2341
K	2413
L	2431
M	3124
N	3142
O	3214
P	3241
Q	3412
R	3421
S	4123
T	4132
U	4213
V	4231
W	4312
X	4321

Class number will be on display on the wall

Contestant name, school and group must be used at all times

If the student believes the ranking of carcass from 1st place to 4th place is 3214, a circle or cross on the correct answer is accepted

QUESTIONS:

Place a cross in the box or circle the correct answer

Students will be asked 5 questions about the class. They should put a circle or cross on their answer. For example:
Which carcass had the darkest meat colour? If they thought Carcass 1 (not necessarily the 1st placed

Q1	1	2	3	4
Q2	1	2	3	4
Q3	1	2	3	4
Q4	1	2	3	4
Q5	1	2	3	4

2.2 Questions

Throughout the time allocation for evaluation and placings of the class, students are encouraged and permitted to make notes on their observations of the class. At the end of the 7 minutes judging time, team leaders will ask students to turn their backs to the class and a series of 5 questions will be asked. Students will have 3 minutes to answer these questions. The students CAN use their notes to answer the questions and will be required to select their answers on their answer sheets.

There will be 5 questions for each placings and questions class, with each question worth 10 points.

2.3 Beef Judging Classes

The beef classes include carcass judging and primal judging. Each class will include placings and questions.

*Primals are selected from these options: Butts, Ribs, Rump & Loins, Shortloins or Rumps.

i) Beef carcass placing & question classes

Beef Carcass placing and question classes require you to:

- Judge four carcasses
- Rank and place the carcasses from first to fourth, the carcass that is considered the most valuable will place 1st in the class.
- Answer 5 questions

ii) Beef primal placings & questions classes

Beef Primal placings and question classes require you to:

- Judge four primals
- Rank and place the primal cuts from first to fourth, the primal that is considered the most valuable will place 1st in the class.
- Primals that may be used include butts, ribs, rump & loins, shortloins or rumps
- Answer 5 questions

2.4 Beef wholesale primal identification class

- Identify the name of up to 20 wholesale primal cuts displayed
- Each primal cut will be awarded 10 points for correct identification.

2.5 Retail cut identification class

- Identify the name of up to 20 retail cuts displayed
- Each retail cut will be awarded 10 points for correct identification.

2.6 Scoring

Team points - The team from each institution will consist of the 4 highest scoring individuals from that institution over all the classes. It is not necessary for an institution to nominate 'teams' prior to the contest.

Tiebreak rule:

In the event that the result of an award outcome is tied, the following tiebreak rules apply:

1. Individual Overall Champion - Individual Overall Questions breaks tie. If still tied then Individual Overall Score breaks tie.
2. Individual Placing or individual category - Individual Overall Score breaks tie. If still tied, then Individual Overall Questions breaks tie.
3. Team Overall Rank - Team Overall Questions breaks tie.
4. Team Placing or team category - Team Overall Score breaks tie. If still tied, then Team Questions breaks tie.

3. Prizes

3.1 School Team Trophy

Each year the winning TEAM is awarded a trophy. Individuals within the winning team will be recognized with awards.

3.2 Individual

High scoring individuals in each competition category will be recognised with awards.

4. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Students will be required to wear at all times whilst competing in the abattoir chillers:

White coat

Hard hat

Gumboots (some abattoir may provide boot covers)

Safety glasses (may vary between contests).

All PPE listed above will be required independent of the host abattoirs PPE policies and is to be supplied by the student/school. PPE should be exceptionally clean.

Please remember that the purpose of PPE is to not only protect the student in the case of an accident, but to also prevent cross contamination onto carcasses. Don't forget, an abattoir is a food processing facility.

- Students shall NOT put on their White Coats until instructed by an ICMJ Committee member or the Contest Manager.
- The host processing plant or the ICMJ committee shall provide P2 masks that the student will need to wear in an acceptable manner (these protect the student from contracting zoonotic diseases such as Q-Fever).

- Hair nets and ear plugs will also be supplied.

Helmet examples

Students must have hard hats/safety helmets. Bump caps will NOT be acceptable. See examples below,

Hard Hat



Bump Cap



5. Eligibility

- Students participating in an official ICMJ contest must be the minimum of Year 9. Any minimum specific age restrictions in place at the host abattoir will over-ride ICMJ ruling. Specific details of age restrictions will be made available with each contest registrations.
- Names of contestants and the school for which they are to compete must be forwarded to ICMJ before the competition. Withdrawals will be permitted but there will no substitutions permitted within 3 days of the competition. This rule will be enforced at all contests.
- Students/Schools wishing to enter the competition must pay the nominated entry fee prior to the contest.
- In the event of significantly large numbers of contestants, the ICMJ committee reserves the right to restrict/cap school participant numbers to ensure every school has an opportunity to compete.

Document Control Confirmation

Change History

Date	Change Description	Author	Issue No:
May 2014	Initial release	Deanna Leaven and Sarah Strachan	1.0
February 2016	Second release, includes changes to minimum school year for contestants and update to required PPE	Demelsa Lollback	2.0
August 2017	Third release, update logo and text to new brand guidelines. Minor content changes.	Demelsa Lollback	3.0
July 2019	Minor content changes including updating score card.	Demelsa Lollback	3.1