



# **BEEF BREED CLASSIFICATION GUIDELINES FOR 2026**

## Wyoming State Fair General Information and Policies

Please reference pages 19-20 in the Wyoming State Fair Premium Book for the complete Youth Livestock Show policies.

For general information regarding Youth Market Beef, please reference the Wyoming State Fair Premium Book, pages 24-27. Youth Market Beef policies and class numbers can be found on page 26.

**Policies:** Classes are created to support breed registry standards that also ensure opportunity for all 4-H and FFA members to compete while using entry numbers and show trends in classes creation.

### CLASS:

- Black Angus
- Hereford
- Maine Anjou
- Shorthorn
- Charolais
- AOB Continental
- AOB English
- Crossbred
- Market Heifers (there are no classification guidelines for heifers as they may be of any breed)

## **Wyoming State Fair Breed Classification Policy**

A classification committee comprised of three individuals will visually determine the appropriate class entry for each animal as it appears to represent a given breed, based solely on physical characteristics and breed type. Registration papers, breeder affidavits, or other factors WILL NOT be considered by committee members. Animals are not disqualified from participating as a result of the classification.

Committee members each apply their opinion to anonymously vote using colored chips. One chip color will represent “meets breed characteristics,” and another will represent “does not meet breed characteristics.” At least two chips indicating “meets breed characteristics” signify committee agreement with the breed classification entry. At least two chips indicating “does not meet breed characteristics” signify disagreement with the breed classification entry. If at least two “does not meet breed characteristics” chips are presented, the committee will convene to determine whether the animal should be moved into another breed class or the crossbred class. A second vote will then be held to determine final class entry eligibility.

*Note:* Classifiers are appointed by WSF to assist WSF by exercising their judgment for class placement based on animals’ appearing breed characteristics. Their decision is final with no appeals. To aid in understanding breed standards, 4-H and FFA members should review and understand breed association standards.

## ANGUS

### Acceptable Breed Characteristics

- Must physically exhibit breed characteristics of a purebred Angus
- Solid Black
- Polled
- Needs to have a tight sheath that is round and perpendicular to the ground
- *Angus*-type ear set, small to moderate ear size high on the head
- Discriminatory Breed Characteristics
- Continental breed type structure (being coarse about his joints, not to be confused with big-boned cattle) and head
- Bumps where horns would be on a horned animal
- Birthmarks or white hair in the switch should be reviewed for the skin color (black skin color is acceptable; white or pink skin is a disqualification)
- *Non-Angus*-type ear set (Ear set and excessive ear size as in Continental breeds)
- Large navels and angular sheaths

### Absolute Disqualifications:

- White skin resulting in white hair above the underline or in the front of the navel
- (White on the navel is acceptable)
- White skin resulting in white hair on the leg, foot or tail
- Horns or scurs
- Brindle
- Diluter color pattern
- Dehorning scars
- Double muscling

## **SHORTHORN**

### Acceptable Breed Classifications

- Must physically exhibit breed characteristics of a purebred Shorthorn
- Solid red; solid white with red hair or red pigment on ear, muzzle, anus or tail; or any combination of red and white, with the red and white color pattern bleeding together.

### Discriminatory Breed Characteristics

- Motley face or brockle face
- Orange or light red color
- Black nose pigment
- Coarse head
- Coarse joints

### Absolute Disqualifications

- Diluted color pattern, such as yellow or yellow roan
- Blacks, blue roans, or grays
- Brindle
- Solid white with no red pigment on the ears, tail, or anus
- Double muscling

## **HEREFORD**

### Ideal Breed Characteristics

- Must physically exhibit breed characteristics of a purebred Hereford
- Some white on the back of both ears
- Red body with white face, white underline, and white-marked legs
- Traditional feather on crest

### Acceptable Breed Characteristics –*These characteristics are not necessarily desirable and in combination may be discriminating*

- Dark red color
- Red neck
- Solid red ear(s)
- Excess white on legs
- Excess white above the underline
- Eye pigment
- Black hair in tail or ear of animal
- Freckling on the nose
- White above switch in tail
- White across rump above the twist

### Discriminatory Breed Characteristics

- Solid white ear(s)
- Questionable ear size and shape
- Straight-line white markings on legs or tail above the switch
- White above the hocks, on the outside and back side of rear legs
- Excess pigment or color around the eyes
- Red neck in combination with excess white on legs
- Line back
- Coarse joints, head, or ribs

### Absolute Disqualifications

- Solid black nose
- Diluter color pattern
- Streaking of white from the feather off the shoulder
- Brindles
- Double muscling; extreme muscle definition
- Any color pattern other than red or white (birthmarks excluded)

## **MAINE ANJOU**

### Acceptable Breed Characteristics

- Solid red
- Solid black
- Red and white
- Black and white
- Heavy skeletal structure

### Discriminatory Breed Characteristics

- None

### Absolute Disqualifications

- Brindle
- Roan
- Diluter color pattern

## **CHAROLAIS**

### Acceptable Breed Characteristics

- Must physically exhibit breed characteristics of a half-blood purebred Charolais
- White, yellow gray, or silver (moderate dappling allowed)
- Expression of diluter gene
- Minimal painting or spotting less than 20%
- Skunk tail, line back, baldy

### Discriminatory Breed Characteristics

- Excessive painting or spotting (over 20%)
- Double muscling
- Brindles
- Frail bone work and frail general appearance
- Light red color or orange
- Short, stubby head
- Overly refined, narrow head
- Excessive dark pigmentation (eyes, nose, ears, and anus)
- Excessive dappling

### Absolute Disqualifications

- Black, red, dark smuts
- Showing no diluter gene, unless solid white
- Excessive painting or spotting

## **AOB CONTINENTAL**

**(Any Other Breed Continental including, but not limited to the following)**

## **SIMMENTAL**

### Acceptable Breed Characteristics

- Appear to physically exhibit characteristics of a purebred Simmental
- Solid black, red, red and white, yellow and white, black and white
- Some painting or spotting above the underline
- Bald, blaze, or streak face
- Typically longer head, larger ears

### Discriminatory Breed Characteristics

- Motley/Brockle face
- Excessive white above the underline

### Absolute Disqualifications

- Brindle
- Roans
- Smut or gray, white, smoky, silver or any combination of these
- Skunk tail

## **LIMOUSIN**

### Acceptable Breed Characteristics

- Must physically exhibit breed characteristics of a Limousin
- Solid black, red/orange, light red, charcoal black, chocolate black, orange or brockleface
- Bald face
- Tend to be smooth shouldered

### Head

- Eye – Deeper socket, prominent brow, light pigment around eye on reds
- Poll –Needs to have a wide poll
- Ear – Tends to be smaller and rounder
- Muzzle – Tends to be short

### Sheath

- Tend to have a forward angle

### Legs/foot

- Tend to be smooth jointed
- Tend to be flat boned

### Discriminatory Breed Characteristics

- Coarse joints, skeleton, and head
- Course open shoulders
- Brindle
- Pencil sheath, hanging straight down
- Pointed poll
- Excessive crest
- White Switch

### Absolute Disqualifications

- Stocking legs
- Spotting above the underline
- Roans
- Yellow, Blonde, Grey, Silver
- Diluter Gene
- Red Cattle with Black noses
- Monkey/Parrot mouth

## **AOB ENGLISH**

**(Any Other Breed English including, but not limited to the following)**

### **Red Angus**

#### Acceptable Breed Characteristics

- Must physically exhibit breed characteristics of a Red Angus
- Solid red (shades may vary)
- Polled
- A blond, light red, or mixed switch
- Cattle may have black hair on the tail, muzzle, face, neck, and legs

#### Discriminatory Breed Characteristics

- Coarse joints (not to be confused with big boned cattle)
- Solid White Switch

#### Absolute Disqualifications

- Horns or scurs breaking through the skin
- White skin resulting in white hair above the underline or in front of the navel (white on navel is acceptable)
- White skin resulting in white hair on the leg
- Black pigmentation of the skin. Not to be confused with freckling on the nose or anus
- Roaning
- Dehorning scars or evidence of dehorning
- Black Noses

## **CROSS DIVISION**

Steers of any coloration pattern are acceptable