

VERMONT WORKING STEERS 4-H PROGRAM
QUALIFICATION RULES FOR SELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF EASTERN STATES
EXPOSITION WORKING STEERS TEAM - The BIG E TEAM
Approved February 9, 2019

1. There will be three qualification events, the time, place and judges to be agreed upon by the Vermont Working Steers State Committee. Each event will have three classes: fitting and showmanship, cart class and stone boat pull. Each class will have a junior division for teamsters from 11 to 13 years old and a senior division for teamsters from 14 to 18 years old. These events are open to all members of the Vermont 4-H Working Steers Program.
2. All signed approval forms, lease/loan forms, health papers and standards for working steer shows, for each team will be checked before each event. Please do not unload your cattle until someone is there to check the paperwork (this may be a 4-H Educator or a volunteer designated that day for that job).
3. The judges for the qualification events will be selected from the list of judges, which has been agreed to by the Vermont Working Steers State Committee. The judges will be given a copy of the Standards Working Steer Shows and be expected to follow the standards.
4. To be selected as a member of the Big E team, members must compete in all classes in at least two qualifying events. Those members who do not compete in all classes in at least two events will not be eligible to be selected as a member of the Big E team.
5. Members of the Big E team must be at least 11 years old on January 1. Attendance at the Big E working steers show requires that the members could miss at least 2 days of school.
6. The weight of the steers will be determined at each event. If scales are not available, a girth tape will be used. The prescribed weight for the stoneboat class will be 50% of the weight of the steers for juniors and 60% the weight of the steers for seniors. Contestants who do not pull the prescribed weight in at least one stoneboat class will not be eligible for the Big E team.
7. Selection of the members of the Big E team will be based on the total scores of two qualifying events. Scoring will be the same as used at the Big E: first blue - 13 pts., second blue - 12 pts., third blue - 11 pts., all other blue - 10 pts., all red - 8 pts., all white - 6 pts. Those members who show in all three qualifying events will use the points from the two best shows.
8. Minimum total points to qualify for the Big E team is 58, i.e. members must have a total score combining both events of at least 58 points and have pulled their percent of weight in at least one qualifying show. The members with the highest total scores will be selected as the Big E team. All members with total scores below 58 points will not be eligible for the Big E.
9. The judge, at the final event, will break all tied scores of 58 or more points by asking questions of the tied members. This will be in affect if we have ties of more than our allotted slots.

10. The decision of the members of the Big E team and the alternate(s) will be made at the close of the third qualification event.
11. The members of the Big E team, who go to the Big E must pay a \$30 sponsorship fee. The sponsorship fee, registration forms and materials for the Big E program book are due at the close of the final qualification event.
12. The State Committee may allow up to two highest scoring members who did not pull their teams weight to attend the Big E without cattle as alternates.
13. If you only have one team and something happens to that team, that has been chosen to go to Eastern States, the Teamster may have the choice to go without his/her team as an alternate.
14. All members will turn in the 4-H project record book and member record book at the beginning of the final event.
15. All animals that attend the Big E must follow the health requirements ID requirements for Massachusetts.
16. All contestants must wear the club uniform: green or khaki pants and white shirt, while competing at the qualifying events and the Big E.
17. Driving with excessive use of the whip or stick will not be tolerated at any time during any 4-H working steer program event. If the judge feels that any contestant is driving with excessive use of the whip or stick, the judge may stop the contestant and issue a warning, award a white ribbon for poor driving or disqualify the contestant from that class. Disqualified contestants will not receive a ribbon or points for that class.
18. Whip and Lash, goad sticks or buggy whips may be used – the stick may not be more than 4 ft. long and ½ inch in diameter on the small end.
19. In the event that the teamsters has multiple teams, all teams must be qualified. Since we have three shows, each team must be shown in fitting and show at least once as well as meeting the point requirements.