

# AMERICAN GUERNSEY ASSOCIATION YOUTH ESSAY CONTEST

## Rules and Regulations

### I. Eligibility

1) To be eligible to compete for the Essay Contest, the contestant must be a youth member of the American Guernsey Association.

The contest is divided into three age divisions:

Senior Division

17 years of age or older as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the contest year

Intermediate Division

Between 13 to 16 years of age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the contest year

Junior Division

Between 8 to 12 years of age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the contest year

2) All contestants in each division will be provided with an essay topic and must answer that response question.

3) All essays must adhere to the proper length as indicated below and should be typed in Times New Roman, 12 pt font, 1-inch margins, and double spaced.

4) **All essays are due in the AGA office by June 1**

5) Essays are preferred to be emailed in Microsoft Word or PDF format but may be mailed to the office.

6) Contestants will be allowed to participate in their age division until they have won that division twice and then they may move up to an older age category.

### II. Subject

**Junior Division:** Write about your fondest memory that involves a Guernsey.

**Intermediate Division:** How would you convince a fellow dairy farmer to add Guernseys to their milking herd?

**Senior Division:** How can the Guernsey cow help modern dairy farmers take on the current challenges to the dairy industry?

### III. Page Limits

In the Senior Division, each essay shall be 3-5 typed pages. In the Intermediate Division, each essay shall be 2-4 pages. In the Junior Division, each essay shall be 1-2 pages. Deductions will be made from the score of each contestant by the judges for essays that are under or over the page limit.

#### **IV. Method of Selecting Winner**

- 1) The Youth Committee will be in charge of the contest. Competent and impartial judges will be selected by the committee to judge the contest.
- 2) A contestant will be judged based on their ability to answer the topic question completely and relevantly, using proper grammar and spelling throughout. Creativity is always welcome as long as the response answers the proposed topic question.
- 3) The essays must be the original work of the contestant and will be penalized if they include information that is not cited or their own.
- 4) Each of the judges will be furnished with typewritten copies of the contestants' essays.
- 5) When all essays have been received by the deadline, each judge will score the essays based on the content of the essay and guidelines for formatting. Contestants will be ranked in numerical order on the basis of the final score to be determined by each judge.

#### **V. Awards**

Awards will be given to the top three individuals in each division.

#### **Part I. For Scoring the Content**

- 1) Content Includes: 70 points

- Importance and Appropriateness of Subject
- Suitability of the Material
- Accuracy of the Statements
- Evidence of Purpose
- Organization of the Content
- Logical Development
- Language Used
- Accomplishment of Purpose – Conclusions

- 2) General Effect Includes: 15 Points

Extent to which essay was interesting, understandable, well written, creative, and topic relevant.

#### **Part II. For Scoring the Format**

- 1) Format Includes: 15 Points

- Proper length for each division as determined above
- Typed
- 12 pt font
- 1 inch margins
- Double Spaced

**AMERICAN GUERNSEY ASSOCIATION  
YOUTH ESSAY CONTEST**

**ENTRY FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_

Entry & Essay Due By June 1st to:

American Guernsey Association  
1224 Alton Darby Creek Rd., Suite G  
Columbus, OH 43228