

# CHAROLAIS

THE BRITISH CHAROLAIS CATTLE SOCIETY



## Charolais Youth Stock Judging Competition Guide





## Preparing to judge

- Ensure you have a white coat and tie. Wear it at all times and keep it buttoned up.
- Make sure you have a working pen or pencil.
- Make sure that you have the correct details on your judging card.

## Before you start

- The master judge will give a brief outline of what he is looking for.
- You will have 8 minutes to judge each class.

## When looking at the Cattle

- Stand back and have a good look from a distance at the group.
- Understand what you have to judge, its general appearance, type, etc.
- First impressions are often the best.
- Make a judgement by eye and confirm by careful handling.
- Don't rush in.

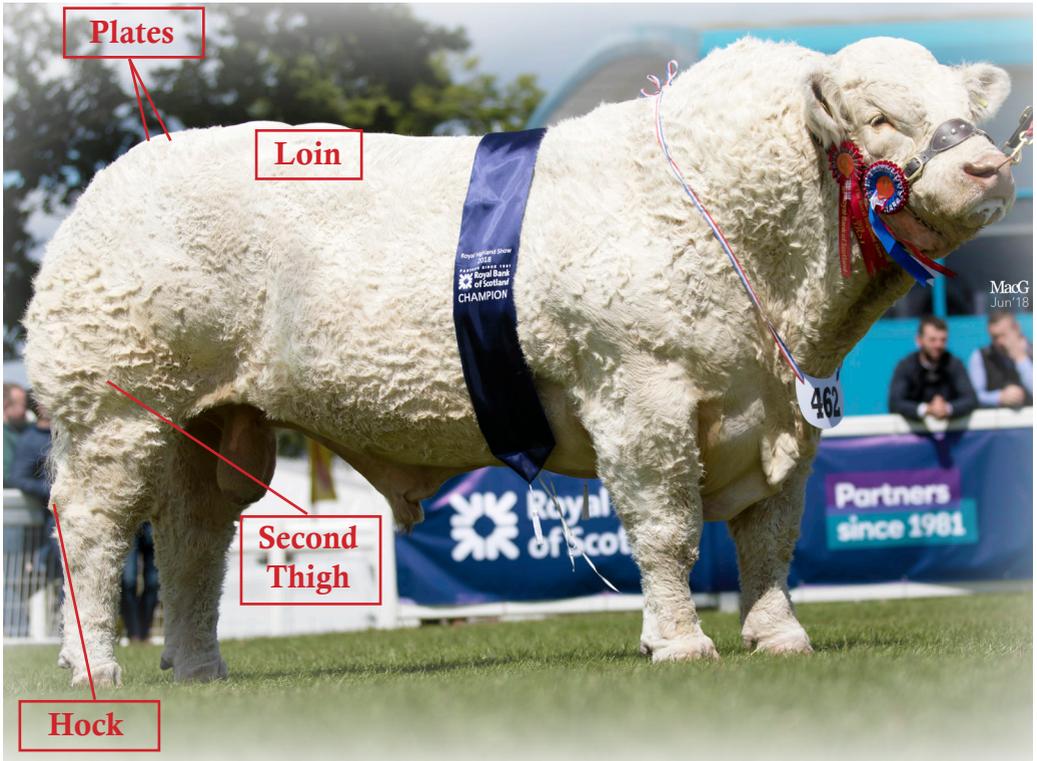
## Giving reasons

- You will have two minutes to present your reason to the judges.
- Memorise your reasons, as much as possible, picturing the animals will help.
- Stand up straight and look the judge in the eye.
- Speak clearly and slowly enough for the judge to follow.
- Describe the stock fully, refer to any distinguishing features.
- As you deliver your reasons compare as much as possible, going from front to back or back to front using the same style for all animals in the class with emphasis on the important areas. This means that you are less likely to get confused and allows the judge to follow your reasons more easily.
- Use the full time allocated, the clearer your reasons, the better your chances.
- Thank the judge when you have finished – whether you enjoyed the experience or not. Judges rarely remember if you thank them, they always remember if you don't!

## Example of a presentation

- Starting: “Mr or Madam Judge. These are my reasons for placing this class of ... in the following order.” (always check your order matches your card)
- List your reasons....
- ... and finishing “Those Mr or Madam Judge are the reasons why I have placed this class in the order a, b, x, and y.”

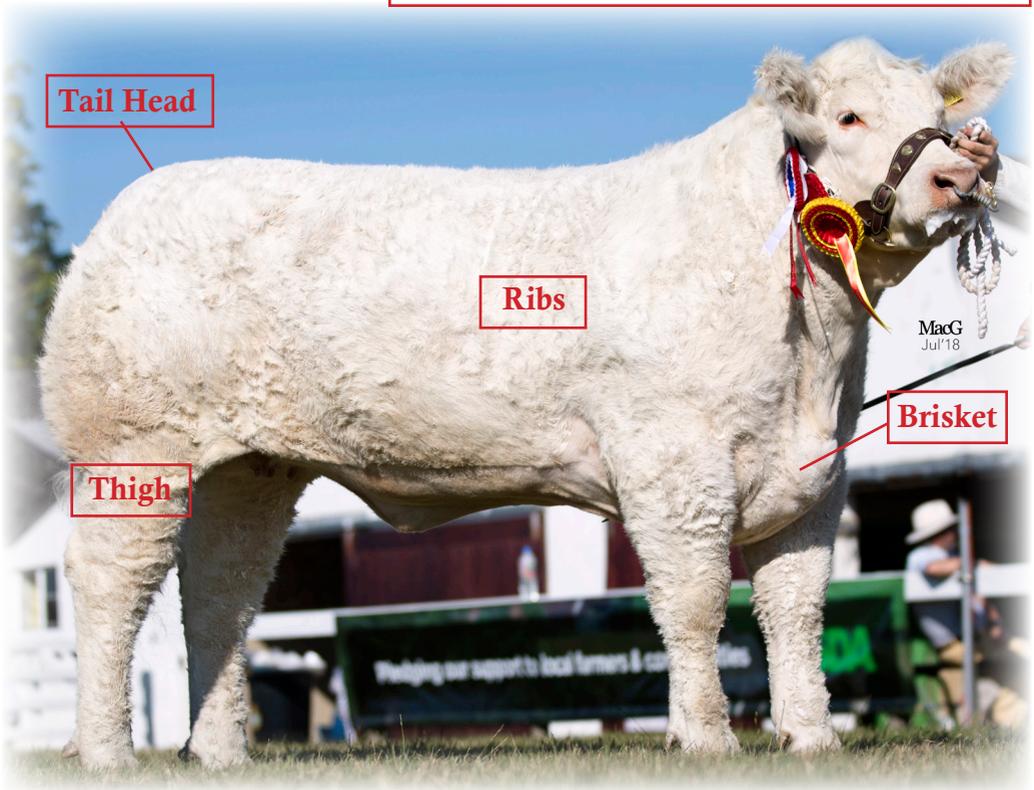
# Charolais Males



- The Charolais bull should be a well-muscled animal on good strong feet and legs to carry the heavy weights associated with the breed.
- The head should have a wide muzzle with a strong jaw placement.
- The eyes should be set reasonably wide apart.
- The ears should be big.
- The head should be sat proud on a strong muscular neck.
- The back should be long and level without dips, particularly behind the shoulder.
- There should be a good heart room and a minimum amount of brisket in the forequarter.
- The tail-setting should be set comfortably into good wide plates over the hind quarters of the bull.
- The hindquarters should also have a good depth of second thigh and should be well rounded.
- There can be two extreme types of Charolais which should be discouraged. One type would be the tall, flat sided bull which has a slack back and a poor hind quarter. This type has no place in modern day beef production and indeed never has. The second would be the double-muscled heavy shouldered bull which invariably has associated fertility and calving problems.

# Charolais Females

Bright alert eyes with ears pricked and large



- The females should have a feminine appearance and should not be heavily muscled and masculine in appearance as this sort tends to be either poor or irregular breeders.
- The head should be wide muzzled with a longer rather than boxy type appearance. Like the bulls, the head should be alert.
- The back should be long and level with a good spring of rib and a minimum of brisket in the forequarter.
- The tail setting should not be dropped and preferably should be slightly raised as this is alleged to be associated with easier calving.
- The legs should be of strong flat bone on good sound feet.
- In the case of cows, the udder should be of good capacity with four well-formed teats for suckled calf production.
- The colour of Charolais Cattle is generally creamy white through to a light tan colour. Broken coloured cattle are not to be encouraged although this would be of secondary importance to skeletal structure and good conformation.

# Useful words and phrases

- Delivering your reasons for placing animals or carcasses in a particular order is almost as important as the actual order.
- Remember, you are required to give both descriptions of what you have seen and comparisons between the animals or carcasses you are asked to judge.
- Below we have provided some useful expressions that will help you give accurate answers that are both descriptive and comparative, so gaining extra points without going over time.

## Descriptive's

Alert	Balanced	Bold	Bright
Capacity	Compact	Convex/Concave	Deep/depth
Feminine	Firm	Fleshy	Fullness
Muscular	Masculine	Outstanding	Prime
Proportioned	Rounded	Scope	Sound
Strong	Superb	Tremendous	Wide/Width
Highest Proportion of lean:fat		Killing out percentage	
Muscle Development		Percentage of high price cuts	
Suitable for todays market		Volume of saleable meat	

## Comparative's

Better proportioned		Deeper	Greater
Lesser	Longer	Narrower	Shorter
Straighter	Stronger	Thicker	Wider





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