Youth Fitting Contest

- Intermediate Fitting Judge: Sean Lynch -
- Senior Fitting Judge: Madison Fisher -
Jessica Pralle & Nicole Pralle-Nepermann - Superintendents

Saturday, September 26, 2026

Schedule

	Intermediate Div.	Senior Div.
Setup:	7:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.
Fitting:	7:30 a.m.	9:30 a.m.

Reasons: Immediately after each Division's Contest
Finals for all: 11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Online Pre-Registration $10 Entry Required Deadline:
Monday, August 31, 11:59 p.m.
Late Entry $20 Required Deadline:
Monday, September 7, 11:59 p.m.
Online entries: worlddairyexpo.com
Entry after 9/7/2026 will not be accepted.

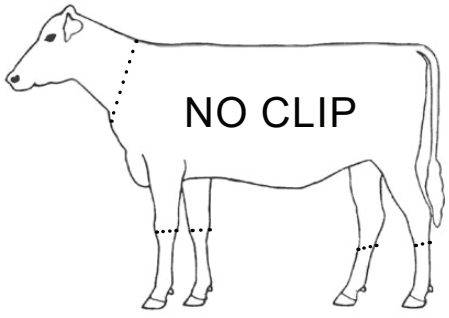
EXHIBITOR MEETING: Friday, September 25, 6:00 p.m. Sale Pavilion

General Contest Rules

1. Open to youth ages 13 - 21 as of day of Contest. Youth who are 21 on January 1, 2026 are ineligible to compete. See divisions on opposing page.
2. Youth who have previously won the World Dairy Expo Fitting Contest, Senior Division, are ineligible to compete in future Contests.
3. Contestants must provide a show halter.
4. All exhibitors will be given backtags and are required to wear these in show harnesses during the competition. Backtags may be picked up Saturday, September 26 from 6-7 a.m. in the Sale Pavilion.
5. Shirts and garments with farm names, sale names or agricultural logos are prohibited.
6. Contestants must provide an animal to fit. Contestants need not own the animal they fit. Contestants are responsible for obtaining permission from the owner, if the animal is not his/her own. The animal must be entered in a World Dairy Expo show or sale.
7. Only the head/neck and legs of the heifer may be clipped before the contest. See diagram below.
8. NEW for 2026: If an animal does not meet clipping standards on arrival to the Contest, exhibitor options are: 1) select a different animal, 2) Backtag is pulled and recorded as "NP"-no placing (this exhibitor may still participate for judge feedback).
9. See the Fitting Contest Schedule, below, for contestant set-up times in the Sale Pavilion
10. Contestants must provide their own fitting equipment. Fitting chutes and personal assistants are not permitted for the Contest.
11. Contestants will have 60 minutes to fit their animal to show ready.
12. After the completion of fitting, at the Judges discretion, division contestants may be asked to lead out their animal. The Judge will perform a final fitting inspection of all contestants in the Division and present placings and reasons. Finalists shall remain/return in the Sale Pavilion for Overall Fitter evaluation, reasons and pictures.
13. Awards will be presented at the conclusion of the Contest.

The following score card will be used:

Ease of handling equipment	20 points
Proper clipping technique on body	20 points
Proper topline hair grooming, *(Including blowing and clipping)*	30 points
Hair is blended properly	10 points
Proper use of sprays and adhesives	10 points
Preparation completely finished	10 points



Only the animal's head/neck and legs may be clipped prior to the contest.

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Youth Fitting Contest Divisions

Male and Female divisions are offered for each contest:

Intermediate Contest: Open to youth whom have reached their 13th birthday and not yet reached their 17th birthday as of September 26, 2026.

Senior Contest: Open to youth whom have reached their 17th birthday and not yet reached their 21st birthday as of September 26, 2026. Youth who were 21 on January 1, 2026 are ineligible to compete.

Youth Fitting Contest Awards

Thank you
Youth Fitting Contest Sponsors:

BRONZE LEVEL
ABS Global, DeForest, WI

Award Presentations
Awards are presented after the finals of each division. Top 5 participants are asked to remain in the contest area for official photographs.

Overall Fitter Award

The First Place winner in each Division will be in consideration for the Overall Fitter Award.

The **Michael Heath Overall Fitter Award** is presented to the Overall Fitter to honor the life and legacy of Michael Heath on behalf of his family and friends. Heath's greatest passion in life was being involved in all aspects of the cattle industry, whether showing, judging, selling, or breeding. His knowledge of the industry allowed him to judge cattle shows locally and all over the world. The Overall Fitter is presented a $1,000 cash award and walnut plaque for their keeping. The winner's name will be engraved on a perpetual plaque trophy and remain on display at World Dairy Expo's corporate office.

Overall Fitter: Custom embroidered jacket courtesy of Images Custom Embroidery, Rudolph, WI

Awards are presented by Youth Fitting Contest Sponsors, or as stated.

Intermediate Fitting Contest:

Male Division and Female Divisions
First Place: Winners receives a $50 cash award
Male Division First - Fifth Place: Neck ribbons and medallions
Female Division First - Fifth Place: Neck ribbons and medallions presented in memory of Katie Coyne
Second - Fifth Place: Winners receive a $25 cash award
First - Fifth Place of each Division: Special award courtesy of GenoSource, Epworth, IA

Senior Fitting Contest:

Male Division and Female Divisions
First Place Awards: Clippers courtesy of Clipper Parts & Repair, Clayton, WI
First Place: Winners received a $50 cash award
Male Division First - Fifth Place: Neck ribbons and medallions
Female Division First - Fifth Place: Neck ribbons and medallions presented in memory of Katie Coyne
Second - Fifth Place: Winners will receive a $25 cash award
First - Fifth Place of each Division: Special award courtesy of GenoSource, Epworth, IA

Youth Fitting Contest Finals will be livestreamed and official photography provided by Cowsmopolitan, Turlock, CA