**IMGA Youth Points Chase Program**

*Passion, hard work and dedication are just a few skills that IMGA junior members learn through their experiences showing. From fitting to friendly competitions, our youth develop skills that mold them into leaders. The IMGA Youth Points Chase (YPC) is an opportunity for additional recognition and rewards exclusively for junior members of the IMGA.*

The YPC program begins January 1 of the current year and concludes with the IMGA Fall Show mid-September of the current year.  The IMGA Youth Points Chase program will have the following divisions:

1. Market Goat Division\*
	1. Consisting of market wether and doe classes
2. Breeding Goat Division\*
	1. Consisting of registered doe, commercial doe or wether dam and buck classes
3. Showmanship Division\*
	1. Senior (14-18 years of age)
	2. Intermediate (9-13 years of age)
	3. Junior (0-8 years of age)

\*Note: Mentors (19-21 years of age) may compete in the market and breeding goat divisions but are not eligible to compete in the showmanship division.

Points will be counted and awarded in each division.  The following awards will be presented at the IMGA Annual Banquet at the end of the year:

* Top 5 individuals in the Market Goat Division
* Top 5 individuals in the Breeding Goat Division
* Top 2 individuals in EACH Showmanship Division
* Overall High Point and Reserve Overall High Point Individual

***IMGA Youth Members***

* IMGA youth participants must be current members of the IMGA with a farm membership (junior youth listed with ages) or with a junior membership in good standing. If the member joins mid program, points will start accumulating at the date membership began.
* Youth must be 21 years of age and under as of January 1 of the current year. There is no age minimum, but youth must be able to safely handle their goat. Small children may have a heeler that is a youth member.
* Youth members or their immediate family must own the goat being shown. The goat may not be shown by more than one youth member for purposes of accumulating YPC points during show season. If a complaint or question is made regarding ownership or goat show person, a committee will be appointed to investigate. If the committee finds the member not abiding by the rule, all acquired points will be forfeited.
* Youth members must physically show the goat. No substitute show person will be allowed unless approved by the IMGA Board of Directors before the show. If a youth member has two goats in one class, they may find another youth member to show the second goat.
* All youth members and their families are expected to conduct themselves appropriately. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of all points.

***Points are earned on the following basis:***

*Market and Breeding:*

* Market Division will accumulate points from the market doe and market wether classes.
* Breeding Division will accumulate points from registered doe, commercial doe, wether dam and buck classes.
* Points will be accumulated from the top ten placings per division. Only the two highest placing goats from each division for any one show may qualify for the top ten season placings.  An example:  A youth may show one breeding goat at ten shows, two breeding goats at five shows or any combination of number of breeding goats and number of shows.  Their top ten placings with their breeding goats will be selected for the YPC total in the breeding division, keeping in mind that no more than two breeding division placings can be counted per show.
* Youth members will receive points based on the placing of their goat in the class, even if other exhibitors in the class are not participating in YPC.  Points are awarded as follows:

 

* No points will be received for divisions champions.
* In the event of a tie after considering the exhibitors top 10 placings, the next top placings (11th, 12th, 13th, etc) will be considered until there is no longer a tie.

*Showmanship:*

* Participants will not be limited to how many points can be earned during the season. Points will be earned as follows:



* In the event of a tie, the youth with the most 1st place winnings will be the champion. If there continues to be a tie, the program administrators will review showmanship placing from the season to determine the champion.

**YPC Participating Shows**

* Sanctioned shows must be open to all IMGA or JIMGA youth members aged 0 – 21, with the exception of Junior American Boer Goat Association (JABGA) shows. JABGA shows will be permitted as a sanctioned YPC show even though Mentor youth (ages 19-21) are not eligible to show due to JABGA rules. Age specific shows, like 4H and FFA, are not eligible.
* To qualify as a sanctioned show, the show must offer:
	+ market or breeding classes open to all meat goat breeds
	+ showmanship at least once during the show “event,” which is a combination of multiple shows in the span of a few days, like a weekend.

EXAMPLE: One weekend has three shows designed as mentioned above. Showmanship is offered once during the weekend “event” but not in each of the three shows. In this example, all three shows from the one “event” weekend would qualify as three sanctioned YPC shows.

* Each show will set its own rules for the class size, weight, or age breaks for the market and breeding classes.   IMGA recommends the show take into consideration that all meat goat breeds are able to participate in the YPC. Additional considerations may be necessary for minority breeds.
* Each show must name a champion and reserve champion showman in each of the following IMGA age divisions, where all ages are as of Jan 1 of the current year:
	+ Senior (14-18 years of age)
	+ Intermediate (9-13 years of age)
	+ Junior (0-8 years of age)
* Prizes are at the show’s discretion.
* A copy of the show results must be emailed to iowameatgoat@gmail.com, preferably within 14 days of the conclusion of the show.
* If a show does not comply with the above rules, the show and the youth points associated may be disqualified.
* Email the IMGA at iowameatgoat@gmail.com to request participation in the YPC and be listed on the show schedule at www.iowa-meat-goat.com.

**Youth Points Chase Contacts:**

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