

# PRINCIPLES FOR SUCCESS: ATTITUDE

## WHAT IS ATTITUDE?

Attitude is the power to stay positive despite the circumstances. When you have a positive attitude, you are optimistic and hopeful. That way of thinking can be contagious to those around you, even your fellow showmen.

How you look at your next big show can have a powerful effect on the results you will see. Have a negative attitude and your work leading up to the show and even prep on show day will be more difficult and a lot less fulfilling. Stay positive despite the hard work and any setbacks you may have with your animal will directly affect how you achieve your goals and attain success.

Things don't always go as planned with your livestock projects. How you react and handle these tough situations shows a lot about your character and the effect you have on others. Be kind, helpful and respectful both in and out of the ring. Wish your competitors good luck and, although winning your class is a great feeling, it may not always happen. If it doesn't, keep a positive attitude, be gracious and congratulate the winners on a job well done. We learn just as much from losing as we do from winning.

## Do's and Don'ts of ATTITUDE

- ✓ **Make a choice.** Your attitude is your choice. When you accept responsibility for your attitude, you can see every experience as an opportunity to learn and grow. You can choose to be positive or choose to be negative. Which one do you prefer?
- ✗ **Blame others.** When things don't go your way in the ring on show day, it's easy to blame the judge, blame other exhibitors for cheating, etc. However, by blaming others, you lose control of the situation and the ability to choose to stay positive.
- ✓ **Be in control.** You are responsible for the input you allow from your fellow showmen. Do you know someone who always has a poor attitude, blames others or plays the victim? Do you enjoy being around that person? An old adage says, "correct the faults in yourself that you find in others."
- ✗ **Let exhaustion bring you down.** You work long and hard getting your animals ready for show time, and lack of sleep often comes along with it. Fatigue, however, can also wipe out a positive attitude. Allow yourself time to rest and relax so you can have a great attitude no matter the situation.
- ✓ **Make a contribution to others.** Ever see someone upset or down about how she placed in a class? Next time, try to encourage that person, compliment her...the more you share your positive attitude with others, the better you make their day and the more you reinforce it in your own life.
- ✗ **Repeat your mistakes.** Practice makes permanent. If you react poorly after losing, make a conscious effort to work on evaluating what you can do better next time. When you practice choosing a good attitude, controlling your environment and encouraging others, you'll find being positive is much easier to come by!

# LODESTAR

## GUIDANCE

★  
PRINCIPLES TO LIVE & LEAD

BY WEAVER LEATHER LIVESTOCK



NOW  
IT'S YOUR  
TURN...  
ENTER to  
WIN!!!

### HOW IS YOUR ATTITUDE?

Take a look at the Do's and Don'ts on the previous page. Can you think of a situation where you had to work on having a positive attitude? What happened and how did you overcome it? How did your reaction affect others around you?

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### CONGRATULATIONS TO MIRANDA D...

...winner of the INFLUENCE Weaver Leather prize package! Read below to learn how she demonstrates INFLUENCE with her livestock projects. Thank you to everyone who entered!

"For as long as I can remember, I've been told that no matter where you are, people are always watching. I don't believe being influential means you give the best speeches or have the most awards. I believe that you can influence those around you by even doing everyday things. I believe that I influence my fellow showmen because I not only strive to be my best in the show ring, but also outside the ring. At shows, being kind and respectful influences people to do the same. I know as showmen, it's hard to lose, but I know you influence people in the way that you react to the loss. The same thing can be

said about winning. As a showman, I always try to influence my fellow showmen in positive ways. I think that happiness is contagious and it only takes one to make a whole group happy. I want everyone to enjoy the show life as much as I do, so I try my hardest to be a positive influence."

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