



# Brown Swiss Association National Junior Bell Ringer Program Rules



*The National Junior Bell Ringer Program provides an opportunity for Juniors across the country to participate in a national activity. It recognizes outstanding Junior-owned or leased animals exhibited at the Junior shows. The application for this contest is a photo and label explained below. Included in the contest are 16 standard female classes: Spring Heifer Calf, Winter Heifer Calf, Fall Heifer Calf, Summer Yearling Heifer, Spring Yearling Heifer, Winter Yearling Heifer, Fall Yearling Heifer, Yearling in Milk, Junior Two-Year Old, Senior Two-Year Old, Junior Three-Year Old, Senior Three-Year Old, Four-Year-Old, Five-Year-Old, Aged Cow, and Component Merit Cow.*

## ELIGIBILITY

The National Bell Ringer contest is open to all National Brown Swiss Junior Members that meet the following requirements.

To be eligible for competition:

- 1.) In Junior Shows, the junior member who owns the animal is to show her. If the owner cannot attend the show, another Brown Swiss Association junior member may show the animal. Also, in a class where a junior member owns more than one animal, the owner must show one animal; another Brown Swiss Association junior member may show the second animal.
- 2.) An animal must have stood first or second at a Junior show and must have been shown by the junior.
- 3.) Animals entered in the National Junior Bell Ringer Program must be registered in the Official Herdbook, including CIE animals (white registration certificate with green border) or Second Step of the Identity Enrollment Program (IE green certificate with black border). The animal must be registered before the show with the Certificate of Registry available for inspection at the show.
- 4.) For an animal to be exhibited as junior-owned, in all classes, the recorded ownership must show the animal to be owned solely by the junior or a partnership comprised of Brown Swiss Association Junior Members or leased by June 1<sup>st</sup> through the National Brown Swiss Association Youth Lease program by the Junior. (Adult-Junior partnerships, family partnerships, and farm ownerships are not acceptable.) All transfers and recorded ownerships must be dated by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current show year for all classes. If in joint ownership, one of the owners must be declared the exhibitor during check-in. Awards will be presented as one unit, to all owners equally. Animals that are leased through the National Brown Swiss Association Lease Program are also eligible to be shown as junior-owned. The leased animal's recorded owner will receive Open show awards.
- 5.) Juniors must be 8 -21 years of age as of January 1 of the current show year.

### Submit by National Deadline: December 1

- 1 Professional Color 5X7 photo.
- 2 Completed Entry form attached to back of photo. In case of electronic photos, Entry form must be submitted separately.

## ENTRIES

A professional, unretouched 5X7 color photo taken of the animal during the calendar year must be provided. Photo (minimum resolution 300 PPI) and entry may be sent electronically to [ljohnson@brownswissusa.com](mailto:ljohnson@brownswissusa.com). If photo is sent electronically, a completed entry form/sticker for that animal must be sent to the national office.

Information on the entry form for the back of the picture should include:

The animal's name, registration number, and birthdate, class entered, up to three Junior Show placings at Junior Shows ONLY where animal is shown by the junior as described under Eligibility, and the name and address of the junior. Labels are available from your state secretary, youth chairman, Association web page, or the national office and should be completed and affixed to the back of the picture. No other information other than what is asked for on the label should be included on the back of the picture. **If photo is sent by email, the information listed above must accompany the photo in the email.**

## RESPONSIBILITIES

For State Bell Ringer contests, each state association should establish a deadline for entries. State entries should be sent to an officer or committee chairman of the state association.

The state association is responsible for appointing a special committee to select the State Bell Ringer and Reserve State Bell Ringer in each class as soon as possible after the shows are completed and the pictures are available. A state officer or committee member is responsible for seeing that the State and Reserve Bell Ringer selections, properly identified and with the aforementioned label affixed to the back of the pictures, are sent to the National Office by December 1.

It is not necessary to participate in or win a state contest to participate in the national contest; however, for those that do win at the state level and are interested in competing in the national contest, both State and Reserve pictures can be sent; remember the picture along with the entry label is the entry. State Bell Ringer certificates will only be furnished for those animals for which an entry (i.e., picture) was sent to the National Office and which met all qualification requirements. Juniors living in states that do not hold state contests should send their entries directly to the national office.

## JUDGING AND AWARDS

The State Bell Ringers and the Reserve State Bell Ringers will be recognized in the January issue of the *Brown Swiss Bulletin*. Each state is responsible for contacting the *Bulletin* staff if they want their state winners published.

Owners of the State and Reserve Bell Ringers will be awarded certificates by the corresponding State Brown Swiss Association.

The National Bell Ringer and a Reserve winner will be selected in each class. An Honorable Mention can be awarded in a class at the judge's discretion. Winners will be chosen by a committee of three judges from the National Approved Judges List. Entries will be judged on pictures and Junior Show placings. The National Bell Ringer selections will receive a plaque and be published in the March issue of the *Brown Swiss Bulletin*.

Send to:

**Brown Swiss Association  
800 Pleasant St, Beloit, WI 53511**