

## BLAINE ALLEN: 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE JUNIOR DIV

### **Why did I choose to show a Brahman?**

My sister was writing her essay for this contest and my Mimi said, "Blaine you can write an essay too." "NO I don't want to do an essay!" I replied. "I am just a kid. What is an essay?" Mimi explained you write a story and answer the question, "Why did I choose to show a Brahman?" Then she told me I might win money and I decided to give it a try.

My story is that my mother, my aunt Susu and my sister Savannah showed Brahmans. What is a boy to do? That is all we see at our ranch. I guess I show Brahmans because they are at my house.

"Not enough," Mimi said. "Tell me five things you like to do."

OK --- I really like Karate.

My favorite class at school is PE or recess.

My favorite sport is Basketball.

My favorite You Tube show is MineCraft.

My favorite thing to do is play with my friends.

Why did I tell you all this? So you would know what "I like to do."

I also have my favorite pets. They are my dog and my Brahman calves.

I really like my Brahmans. GrandDad gave my sister and me a heifer when we had our fourth birthday. I didn't really choose to show a Brahman, they choose me. Being raised on a Brahman ranch, these flop eared, hump back animals were everywhere. Just go outside to play and here they come. They are so cute. I just have to go pet them.

A big problem is when I start playing with my cow's calf here comes my sister's calf and she wants me to pay attention to her too. My calf gets jealous.

"Not enough!" said Mimi.

I am already a Black Belt in karate. Earning this honor means I have listened and followed my instructor. I go to class regularly. I practice my moves, kicks and punches and spar with other karate kids. Karate is a lot of fun.

Showing a Brahman is a lot like karate. I must listen and learn from my instructors. With my Brahmans, my instructors are my mom, my friends, the judge and was my GrandDad. I pay attention and I have to watch for other animals and watch the judge. And boy do I practice.

I told you my favorite classes in school are PE and recess. I have to be strong and fast and pay attention to do well in PE. The same thing you better do if you want to show a Brahman. Being strong around a Brahman calf really means I have to take care of them.

I feed and water them. The buckets are heavy. I have to keep my calf from pulling away and be able keep up with all the other kids.

When I started playing basketball I had to learn the rules, and practice, practice, practice. Just like showing a Brahman... I had to learn the rules to show my Brahman, and practice, practice, practice. I had to learn how to circle the ring, how to watch the judge, how to set up my calf, and most importantly, how to have good sportsmanship.

Showing Brahmans is sometimes just like playing MineCraft, because my Mom makes videos and Mimi takes pictures of me showing. I can see how I am doing by watching the videos and looking at the pictures. I can build and hunt for all types of things on MineCraft. That is a lot like selecting and training my Brahman calf.

My favorite thing to do is play with my friends. Some of my friends I know from my school and some go to my church. But my BEST friends are my show friends. I know all of these friends because they show Brahman cattle too. Most of these friends live far away. I don't get to see them every day or every week. They live everywhere. I cannot wait until the next Brahman show to see the guys. To be a good friend you must follow the Golden Rule. Treat others as you want them to treat you. I always try to remember the Golden Rule when I show my Brahmans.

My favorite animals are my dog and my Brahman calves. I am responsible for my dog, Cash. I have to take care of him. I make sure he has food and water. We play a lot. I do this same thing for my Brahman show animals and the other Brahmans on our ranch.

I like showing my Brahman calves. I take very good care of them. They are very special to me. I guess I didn't have much of a choice on why I selected a Brahman show calf, but I love them and I am glad that I have them and get to show them.