

Dear Voting Delegate,

Greetings from Wisconsin!

My name is Maggie Mindemann, and I am honored to be considered as a candidate for the National Junior Angus Association Board of Directors. First, congratulations on being selected to represent your state as a voting delegate. It is a meaningful responsibility, and I hope you enjoy the chance to connect with juniors from across the country who share your passion for the Angus breed.

The Angus breed has been part of my life for as long as I can remember, but it is the NJAA that truly shaped the person I am today. Growing up in the Angus community taught me how to work hard, stay grounded, and show up for the people around me. Through showing cattle, participating in contests, and traveling to events like Raising the Bar and LEAD, I gained confidence, direction, and friendships that have carried me into college and beyond.

I am currently studying Agricultural Business at Western Illinois University, preparing for a future in the livestock and beef industry. My experiences in the classroom, on Angus operations, and through hands-on involvement in agriculture have strengthened my understanding of the industry and the role juniors play in its future. No matter where I go, I carry the lessons I learned through the NJAA — responsibility, communication, leadership, and the importance of treating people well.

Throughout my time as a junior, I have been fortunate to experience nearly every corner of this association. I've shown cattle across the country, competed in contests, served in leadership roles at the state level, and built friendships that feel like family. But the moments that have meant the most to me are the small ones: helping a younger member get ready for their class, answering questions in the barn, or encouraging someone to try something new. Those experiences are what inspired me to run for the Board.

I look forward to meeting you in Louisville for Bases Loaded in the Bluegrass. Safe travels, and thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,

Maggie Mindemann

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Watertown, WI

EXPERIENCE

OneHealth and Wellness (Remote) Feb 2025 – Jun 2025

- Media Intern tasked with creating AI-generated videos to promote supplements, increase brand recognition, and expand audience engagement.

Farm Journal (Remote) Dec 2023 – Jun 2024

- Marketing Intern responsible for conducting data research on current clients and competitors' clients, focusing on machinery, dairy cattle, and beef cattle operations.

St. Coletta's, Jefferson, WI 2023 – Present

- Provided direct support to individuals with mental and physical disabilities, fostering social and life skills, building confidence, and assisting with personal goal achievement.

Jelli's Market, Helenville, WI 2017 – Present

- Field Manager (2020 – Present): Directed customers, managed strawberry field health, and coordinated employee rotations between fields, box stand, and country store based on demand.
- Field Worker (2017 – 2019): Performed daily berry picking and general field support during harvest season.

Mindemann Farms, Watertown, WI Birth – Present

- Responsible for a range of farm operations, including basic chore assistance, herd health management, and breeding decisions. Progressed to a key role in the direct-to-consumer beef business, supporting marketing and sales efforts.

EDUCATION

Western Illinois University 2025- 2029

GPA:4.00

EXTRACURRICULARS

Hoof and Horn Club, Western Illinois University 2025 – Present

Country Roots 4-H Club 2014 – Present

- President (2024-2025), Vice President (2023-2024), Historian (2022-2023), Reporter (2020-2022)

Wisconsin Junior Angus Association 2007 – Present

- President (2025-2026)
- Member, Fundraising Chair (2021-2025)- Directed and managed a successful fundraising campaign that generated \$50,000 in support of the 2024 National Junior Angus Show held in Madison, WI.

Jefferson FFA Chapter 2020 – 2025

- Member, President (2024-2025), Treasurer (2022-2023), Livestock Judging Team Member (2023 – Present)
- Jefferson County Student Rotarian 2024-2025
- National Honor Society 2024-2025
- Jefferson County 4-H Livestock Judging Team 2023 – Present

SKILLS

Communication: Effective communication and situational awareness in farm operations, including task delegation and fostering mutual respect within teams.

Engagement:

Strong ability to collaborate and lead groups, with a passion for teamwork and supporting others' success.

Teamwork: Commitment to achieving goals by fulfilling various roles and responsibilities as needed.

Leadership: Experienced in guiding teams to accomplish both large and small objectives, with an emphasis on personal and group development.

AWARDS

FFA Chapter Greenhand – 2022

- Star Greenhand – 2022
- Star Chapter – 2024

National Junior Angus Association

- -Bronze Award
- - Silver Award

Maggie Mindemann's Questions and Answer Sheet

1. What personal and professional goals have you set for the future?

I'm still figuring out the exact path I want to take, but I know without a doubt that I want to build a future in agriculture. The livestock industry is where I feel at home, and I want a career that keeps me connected to the people, the cattle, and the community that raised me. Right now, I'm especially interested in marketing or sales, because I enjoy talking with people, building relationships, and helping others find what they need. Even though I don't have every detail figured out yet, I'm confident that whatever direction I go, it will be something that lets me stay involved in agriculture and continue growing as a leader and communicator. My biggest goal is to find a career where I can wake up every day excited about what I'm doing and proud of the impact I'm making.

2. Knowing what you know now, what would you have done differently in your NJAA career?

Looking back, I wish I had been more outgoing and jumped into more opportunities earlier in my NJAA career. I've met so many wonderful lifelong friends through this industry, and being part of this program has shown me how special the people truly are. If I could go back, I would have pushed myself to participate in more contests, talk to more people, and get involved sooner. The NJAA is full of chances to learn, grow, and connect, and I didn't realize how fast the years would go by. I'm grateful for everything I've experienced, but I know I would have gained even more if I had stepped out of my comfort zone earlier. That's something I carry with me now — a reminder to say yes, try new things, and make the most of every moment.

3. How do you demonstrate leadership when no title or recognition is involved?

To me, leadership isn't about a title — it's about doing what needs to be done, whether or not someone is watching. I try to lead by stepping up in the moments that matter, whether that's in a group setting or just in everyday life. Sometimes leadership is fun and rewarding, but other times it's simply about being responsible, dependable, and willing to help. I believe real leadership shows up in the small things: picking up the slack, helping someone who's struggling, or staying positive when things get stressful. It's not about being the loudest person in the room or getting credit — it's about being someone others can count on. That's the kind of leader I try to be every day.

4. If elected to the NJAA Board of Directors, what would you bring to the table?

If elected, I would bring a fun-loving spirit and a genuine willingness to listen. I'm someone who cares deeply about people, and I want juniors to feel heard, supported, and valued. I believe a big part of being on the Junior Board is taking the time to understand what members want and need, and then bringing those ideas forward. I'm not afraid to speak up for others, and I'm committed to being a voice for the juniors who may not always feel comfortable speaking for themselves. I also believe in creating an environment where everyone feels welcome — whether they're brand new to the NJAA or have been around for years. At the end of the day, I want to serve, encourage, and help make this program even stronger for the next generation.

5. In your words, what role does the NJAA Board of Directors play in the NJAA?

I believe the Junior Board serves as the voice of the membership. Their job is to represent the juniors, listen to their needs, and help make sure the program keeps moving forward in a positive way. Board members are role models, and that's something I take seriously because growing up, I had Junior Board members I looked up to — and I still do today. They were the people who made me feel welcome, encouraged me to get involved, and showed me what leadership in this organization looks like. To me, the Board is there to set that same example for the next generation.

They help guide the junior program, support events, and create opportunities for members to learn, grow, and succeed. But more than anything, they are there to serve the juniors — to be someone younger members can look up to, trust, and turn to. The Board represents the Angus breed with pride, and they help every junior feel like they belong and can reach their goals.