

# GENERAL RULES

## 4-H/FFA Department

(Any new rules or changes will be in **bold** print.)

1. All exhibitors must be enrolled in a 4-H Club or FFA Chapter in Fairfield County during the current year.
  2. All still projects must have been selected and started by June 1 of the current year.
  3. Out of county Junior Fair Exhibitors, who do not attend a Fairfield County School, are not allowed to enter market projects.
  4. All livestock, unless otherwise stated under specific rules, must have been selected & started by July 1 of current year.
  5. Eligibility for 4-H membership begins when a child is age 8 and enrolled in 3rd grade as of January 1 of the current year. Ohio 4-H membership ends December 31 of the year in which an individual attains the age of 19.
  6. To be eligible for FFA exhibits, the individual must be a member of a Fairfield County FFA Chapter (minimum of 9th grade as of county fair time), and must not have reached his/her 19th birthday before January 1 of the current year. Exhibits must be a part of FFA SAE program. All possession times must be met.
  7. No Exhibit – No Pass!
  8. Separate and different projects must be taken if a member belongs to both 4-H and FFA or 4-H and FHA. The same project cannot be used for competition in more than one organization.
  9. No Junior Fair exhibitor shall remain in the barns on the fairgrounds during the night, except with written permission from the Senior Fair Board Office.
  10. The drinking of intoxicating beverages will not be permitted on the fair grounds.
  11. All grand & reserve champions & super showmanship animals will be released by the Senior Fair Board on Saturday. Check with the Sale Office for times.
  12. No scales other than the official certified scales are permitted on the fairgrounds.
  13. Each of the following shows will be planned and conducted by a show committee consisting of a superintendent, assistants, 4-H Advisors, FFA Advisors and Junior Fair Board members: Dairy, Beef, Swine, Sheep, Horse, Dairy/Angora Goats, Meat/Market Goats, Pygmy Goats, Llamas, Poultry, Rabbits, Dogs, and Small Animals (S.A.- no FFA Advisor required).
  14. Each Show (above) will have a stewards committee composed of one FFA Advisor, two 4-H Advisors, and one Junior Fair Board member. They will be present at all show functions to assist the superintendent with show decisions.
  15. All animals must be shown by the owner unless special permission is given by the Superintendent in Charge. If an animal is shown by someone other than the owner (with permission of the Supt.), the showman must be an eligible 4-H or FFA member of Fairfield County.
  16. Each division official will expect courteous & orderly conduct by the exhibitors & their attendants. Harassment, profanity, or unsportsmanlike conduct toward Fair officials, judges, fair manager, FFA Advisors, 4-H Educator, Assistants or Advisors, show helpers or exhibitors will not be tolerated. Any violations of this rule would warrant withholding of premiums won & exemption of showing at the Fairfield County Fair.
  17. Management aims to provide prompt and efficient removal of manure, garbage, rubbish and control of flies and mosquitoes. Full cooperation of concessionaires and exhibitors will make it possible.
  18. No hay or straw will be permitted in the display barn.
  19. Junior Fair Exhibitors housing animal(s) in a location other than the property on which they reside must obtain and file a Livestock Possession Form with the OSU Extension Office. Deadline for filling out this form is the deadline set forth for possession of the animal, listed under "requirements for county fair judging". If the Livestock Possession form is not on file by the date required for possession of the animal, and it is discovered that animals are being housed on property other than the owner's resident property, the animal will be ineligible to show in the current year's Junior Fair Show.
  20. All livestock trailers must be removed from the fairgrounds during the week of the fair. The only trailers allowed on the grounds will be those used for beef cattle tie-outs, or those with the approval of the Senior Fair Board.
  21. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to care for the animals through Saturday when they are released. Any animal not being properly cared for will first receive a verbal warning from the superintendent. If the situation is not corrected, the exhibitor will be reported to the Jr. Fair Director and then the situation will be addressed. If the situation is still not corrected, the exhibitor will be banned from exhibiting that particular specie at the following year's fair.
  22. Tagging of market animals, excluding market steers, after the date set in the Junior Fair Rules for the Fairfield Co. Fair:
    - A. Animals in question will be allowed to be tagged at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds on a date of not more than five (5) working days after the tag-in date. Arrangements are to be made through the Senior Fair office.
    - B. Owners of animals must present to officials a bill of sale or proof of purchase for the animals at the time of tagging.
  - C. The exhibit of the animals in question will be limited to the following conditions:
    - i. Animals will receive a grade only from the species show superintendent, and will not be eligible for competition in market classes.
    - ii. Exhibitors will be eligible for showmanship in their respective age divisions.
    - iii. Exhibitors will not be eligible for the Premier Exhibitor Award
    - iv. Animals must sell in the auction as part of weight groups, assigned by Show and Sale Committee.
  - D. Exhibitors must complete other guidelines of the Jr Fair rules (such as Quality Assurance & weigh-ins)
  - E. A \$10.00 late fee per animal tagged must be paid at the time of tag in, if the exhibitor has shown in this area in a previous fair.
  - F. The \$10.00 fee will not apply to exhibitors who are showing that particular specie for the first time.
23. Grooming chutes may only be placed in designated areas. No chutes are to be placed in areas used for parking. If chutes are placed in a restricted area, they must be removed immediately. If chutes are not removed, participants will be disqualified from showing at the current year's fair.
24. Parents or Legal Guardians of 4-H/FFA participants with a recognized disability (physical or mental) may request assistance for their child.
- Requests must be made in writing 30 days prior to the required function of the current year and must be accompanied by a Release of Information form (available at the Extension office). Requests should be sent to the Fairfield County OSU Extension Office, c/o 4-H Educator, 831 College Ave., Lancaster, Ohio 43130. A new request for accommodations must be made each year of the child's involvement.
- Who: Students who currently have an active Individualized Education Plan (I.E.P.) or a 504 Plan on file with one of the Fairfield County or Lancaster City School Districts, or homeschooled students with documented physical or mental disabilities.
- What: The letter should state specifically the accommodations that are needed to provide the child with an equal opportunity to fulfill 4-H/FFA obligations for completing projects or exhibiting in the current year's junior fair, including the Skill-a-thon.
- The Extension office and the Jr & Sr Fair Boards will work with the parents & the child to provide necessary accommodations. Should the child need specialized assistance (ex: language interpretation), the parents will be asked to assist in procuring it. Each request will be handled individually & every effort will

be made to accommodate the child's special need in order to make their 4-H/FFA experience as beneficial as possible. Should the child need accommodations at club meetings, the Extension office and the club advisors will work with the parents to facilitate a workable solution.

25. If an animal leaves the fairgrounds for any reason, it may not return for the duration of the current Fairfield Co. Jr. Fair. Any exhibitor violating this rule will be barred from exhibiting that particular species at the fair the following year.

26. Animals may not be weighed in after the scheduled fair arrival/weigh in time, unless permission is previously granted by the Junior Fair Director. The animal will be considered ineligible to show for class placing. The animal will not be unloaded after the scheduled arrival time has passed. DUNF must be completed and signed before the animal is unloaded.

27. Once a class has concluded & an exhibitor has been presented with an award, placement/award cannot be changed. The only exception to this is if a rule has been broken by an exhibitor & premium/award is to be taken away.

**28. Exhibitors are responsible for cleaning up hair clippings left on the ground (even if they are outside).**

**29. Exhibitors are responsible for cleaning up after their animals, especially if they are taking outside the designated area.**

28. The Fairfield County Fair will operate under the provisions of Ohio's Livestock Show Reform Act and under all applicable Ohio Department of Agriculture Administrative Code Rules. These rules are available on pages following.

#### **PREMIUMS**

1. Premiums will be awarded only if the exhibitor has satisfactorily completed a 4-H project and/or complied with the FFA Chapter requirements.

2. The Fairfield County Extension Office and FFA Advisory Committee assumes the responsibility for furnishing the necessary information for payment of all premiums. All prejudged project grades **MUST** be available to the Fair Board Office on or before August 20.

3. All grades for projects judged during the Fair **MUST** be available to the Jr. Fair Office by 9a.m. following the day of judging.

4. Premiums will be paid on the fair exhibit grade.

5. Premiums on such projects will be paid on 2 projects per 4-H/FFA exhibitor.

6. If paid on more than 2 projects, or projects are removed before the appropriate release time, premium money must be refunded.

7. All 4-H and FFA members exhibiting at

the Fair **MUST** collect their premiums from the Entry Clerk's office trailer on the north side of the grounds (by main show arena) fair week; Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Premiums will be forfeited if not collected on above mentioned times.

8. Premiums will be forfeited if aisles and pens are not kept clean.

#### **ENTRIES**

1. No member will be permitted more than 1 entry per class (except in market lamb, dairy feeder, market beef, market goat, and breeding rabbit class).

2. Animals of different breeds as well as registered or grade may be considered in different classes. Other projects, if taken as part of different project books, will be in different classes, unless otherwise noted.

3. If satisfactory housing is not available, the Fair Board reserves the right to limit the number of entries in any category in which the exhibits exceed the amount of space available.

4. 4-H Advisors and Ag.Ed. Instructors must make entries at the Fair Board Office between the dates of August 27 and September 7, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM; **CLOSED LABOR DAY AND NO EVENING or SATURDAY HOURS.** Entries may be mailed to: P.O. Box 945, Lancaster, Ohio 43130, but must be **received** at the Fair Board Office by September 7.

#### **VIOLATION OF RULES**

1. If a Junior Fair Exhibitor is barred from the Ohio State Fair, an Independent or County Fair, the exhibitor will be barred from the Fairfield County Fair for the same amount of time.

2. The Senior Fair Board reserves the right to interpret all rules. Their decision is final.

3. Exhibitors who neglect their livestock at the fair will be barred from the fair for one or more years.

#### **REPORTING OF RULE VIOLATIONS AND PROCEDURE**

1. Rule violations should be brought to the attention of the show superintendent or assistant superintendent.

2. If the decision of the show superintendent is not satisfactory, then an appeal may be made to the Jr Fair Director.

3. If the decision of the Junior Fair Director is not satisfactory, then a formal protest may be filed.

4. Any violation concerning the sale of an animal should be referred to the Fairfield County Junior Fair Livestock Sale Committee. In the question of a rule violation, the following due process will be used: The exhibitor and/or parties involved will be questioned by Fair officials.

If it is felt a violation has occurred, Fair officials will make recommendations to the designated committee of the Agricultural Society which is appointed to that particular

department.

After the committee hears the allegations and/or evidence, they will decide if the case should be brought before the complete Board of Directors. In the decision of allegations being brought before the Board, all parties involved will be notified of a meeting date with all parties having the right to present their views and/or evidence. Upon hearing the case, the Fair Board will make a ruling.

When satisfactory evidence has been obtained by the Fair Board that any of the rules have been violated, the exhibitor and/or exhibitor's family may be barred from showing in any future agricultural fairs for a period of 1 to 5 years. The minimum number of years for a livestock disbarment is three (3) years before the right to a review. In the case any premium shall have been awarded to animals shown in violation of this rule, the Fair Board will require the exhibitor to refund all premiums, trophies, awards, ribbons, and sale money under each violation. Unless fraud and/or deception are involved, all championship placings stand.

#### **PROTESTS**

1. Any Junior Fair rule interpretation/violation occurring prior to or during the current year's fair will fall solely to the discretion of the Junior Fair Director.

2. If a protest of the Jr Fair Director's decision is desired, it must be filed in writing, signed by the party or parties making protest, and filed with the Senior Fair Board Office within 24 hours of the decision in question, accompanied by a protest fee of \$100.00 (cash).

3. The Senior Fair Board and the superintendent of the department involved will then consider protest at a time set by the Fair Manager.

4. All decisions of the Senior Fair Board are final. If the protest is granted, the \$100 fee will be returned. If the protest is denied, the \$100 fee will not be refunded.

#### **JUNIOR LIVESTOCK TAMPERING and/or MISREPRESENTATION**

1. Any tampering or misrepresentation as to breeding, age, ownership, custody and any other irregularity in showing will be considered fraud and deception.

2. To maintain a high degree of confidence and integrity in the livestock shows, the Agricultural Society reserves the right to disqualify any animal fitted in an unethical manner and to disqualify the exhibitor and the exhibitor's assistants who fitted the animals involved.

Unethical fitting shall include any cutting or tearing of the hide, cutting or tearing underneath the hide or removal of tissue in any attempt to alter the shape or appearance. It shall also include attempts to disrupt or change normal dental development, dyeing or coloring hair, adding artificial tail-heads, switches, polls, hair and heels, as well as any attempt to change the conformation and degree of

firmness, by administration of fluids or air internally or externally in a liquid, solid or gaseous state. Only transparent grooming materials may be used.

3. The Use of Clenbuterol and other Unapproved Drugs is Prohibited.

4. All exhibitors, their immediate family and any other parties involved in the unethical fitting and showing of an animal will be barred from exhibiting or showing at this fair and will forfeit all premiums, prize money and awards won in any junior fair and/or open class divisions.

Should fraud or deception, and proof, as determined by the Agricultural society, be discovered after the animal or animals have been shown and prior to the sale, such animal(s) shall not be permitted to sell. The animals placing next in line at the show shall move up.

Should violation be discovered after the sale, all sale money shall be returned to the buyer and the animal, carcass or carcass value shall be returned to the exhibitor. All placings in show will stand. No animals will move up. Any carcass suspected of being tampered with or suspected of containing drugs will be detained until the investigation is complete.

If the carcass is condemned at the packing plant for any reason, it shall be grounds for disqualification in the on-foot and carcass divisions of the show. Additionally, all premiums and sale money shall be forfeited and the loss of the animal shall be incurred by the exhibitor.

5. The Fairfield County Fair Board shall have the right to require any suspected animal to be subject to examinations or tests prescribed by the fair officials to determine if a substance has been administered to the animal to change the conformation or temperament of the animal. The cost will be paid by the exhibitor.

### **PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

For the Duration Of The Fair:

1. NO Exhibitor shall enter an animal in competition in the Junior Division of the Fairfield County Fair that has been handled, fitted, groomed, shown, or exhibited at any time during the Fairfield County Fair by another person except a member of the exhibitor's immediate family or other junior exhibitor. Each exhibitor showing a Beef, Sheep, or Swine market animal shall register with the Junior Fair Director or his designee (Show Supt.), on the day of weigh-in at the Fairfield County Fair. The name of the person (if any) from the immediate family or another Fairfield County junior exhibitor who can assist the exhibitor in the preparation or grooming of the animal entered in a competition must be registered with show superintendent at weigh-in. One person or both parents per animal can be registered. 4-H and FFA Advisors can instruct only.

Immediate Family: Including but not limited to the exhibitor's parent, step-parent, foster

parent, grandparent, step-grandparent, foster grandparent, brother, sister, step-brother, step-sister, half-brother, half-sister, or guardian.

2. NO exhibitor shall enter an animal in a Jr Division competition of the Fairfield County Fair that has been administered, fed, given, or injected a drug or any other substance including tranquilizers, natural or otherwise, except those drugs or substances that are administered, fed, given or injected by a licensed veterinarian. Animals of market class must have met withdrawal times & have a valid Drug Use Notification Form on file with the show superintendent.

### **CODE OF PRACTICES**

The following describes general responsibilities of the exhibitor & all persons in their authority, in the proper care & handling of animals raised for food & fiber:

1. To provide food, water and care necessary to protect the health and welfare of my animals.

2. To provide a safe and healthy environment for my animals, that is clean, well ventilated and provides ample space.

3. To provide a well planned disease prevention program to protect the health of my herd or flock. This includes a strong veterinarian/client relationship.

4. To use humane & sanitary methods when it is necessary to dispose of my animals.

5. To make timely inspections of all animals to evaluate the health and ensure that all basic requirements are being met.

6. To ensure proper handling techniques are used to eliminate any undue stress or injury when manual manipulation is necessary.

7. To provide transportation for my animals that avoids undue stress or injury caused by overcrowding, excessive time in transit or improper handling when loading or unloading.

8. The willful mistreatment of my animals or the mistreatment of any animal will not be tolerated. In cases of mistreatment, the proper authorities will be notified.

9. To make management decisions based on scientific fact and to consider the welfare of the animals.

### **SPECIAL 4-H RULES**

1. Unless excused by the 4-H club advisor, 4-H members must attend at least 6 of 8, or 3/4, of the 4-H club meetings during a single project year in order to exhibit at the fair and to receive a completed grade in their project.

2. A minimum of 5 members from 3 different families are required to constitute a Traditional 4-H club. 3 members are required to constitute a Cloverbud club.

3. Project books are required of all members, unless they already possess a current book from a previous year.

4. Ohio State University Extension administers the 4-H youth development education program whose mission is to

develop youth to reach their fullest potential as capable, competent, caring, and contributing citizens. Each county in Ohio conducts the 4-H youth development program to accomplish this goal. In order to affirm Ohio Extension's position concerning cross county (or cross state line) 4-H membership and to establish guidelines in this area to fulfill the above mission, the following philosophy and process statements are provided.

A) Youth are expected to affiliate with the program in their county of residence.

B) 4-H membership in two counties simultaneously is not possible.

C) Cross state line membership will be considered the same as for cross county participation.

D) It is recognized that limited situations may occur where membership in a county other than the county of residence might be positive. The Educators in both counties must be in agreement that the change should occur. This should be based on their judgment in accord with the opening paragraph of this policy.

E) Consideration for membership in a county other than the county of residence should be given only in situations where a positive educational experience will result. Any change motivated by perceived competitive or sale advantage, any change due to controversial issues, or other similar motivations will not be seen as justified reasons for consideration of membership in a county other than the county of residence, and should be automatically rejected by the Educators involved.

F) Any consideration for membership in a county other than the county of residence, within the limits of this policy and not addressed by the above statements should be brought to the attention of the County Director, and Regional Director, by the County 4-H Educator. This support team will then provide leadership for decisions in these special situations.

G) A youth desiring membership in a cross county (or cross state) line must submit a "Cross County Line" form (available from the OSU Extension Office) to the Educator for approval.

5. Eligible youth may be members of both a 4-H club and any other group. When a member belongs to two or more organizations, projects carried, in all cases, must be separate and different (also different animals and/or products) in an effort to broaden the member's experience and learning.

The following examples will be considered separate and different projects - Cows, Heifers; Sheep Breeding, Market Lambs; etc. When project selection is a problem, see 4-H Educator for procedure.

6. To complete a project requires that all the above rules (1-5) must be followed and that the advisor be satisfied with the project. Anything less than this should be considered incomplete. Exhibition is an option beyond completion.