

4-H & FFA Livestock General Rules

1. Eligibility of Exhibits.

- Only animals listed by the exhibitor on a Livestock ID Report Form or Iowa Verification Form and filed in the EO on or before May 15 (Jan. 15 for Market Beef) may be entered. Rabbits, poultry, cats, and small pets must be in possession by May 15, complete the Livestock/Small Animal entry by due date.
- All livestock must meet identification and ownership/possession requirements outlined on the Livestock ID's and in 4-H 202.
- When exhibitors are members of 4-H and FFA, they shall not identify, manage, keep records or exhibit the same plants or animals, etc., in both organizations. Thus, a member may exhibit breeding sheep or breeding beef in one organization and market sheep or market beef in the other. Since Boone County Fair swine classes are only market classes, an exhibitor must choose to exhibit swine as either a 4-H or FFA exhibit, but not both.
- All livestock must be owned by the exhibitor, owned in partnership with a family member or legal guardian, or have a management arrangement approved by the 4-H Youth Committee.

2. Animal Care and Management.

4-H members exhibiting market beef, Pen of 3, sheep, and swine shall complete the "*Boone County Fair 4-H Animal Care & Management Disclosure*" and turn in the completed form at species fair weigh-in.

COOL (County of Origin Labeling) Compliance - Exhibitors must maintain records that all animals were born and raised in the United States and follow all COOL compliance guidelines.

If proper care of the animal (s) is not maintained, the superintendent (with committee decision) has the right to dismiss the animal. Premium money will be forfeited, and participation in future fairs will be questioned.

Any animal that becomes wild or uncontrollable during the fair may be declared ineligible by the Superintendent (with committee decision) and sent home (except swine).

3. Arrival/Release.

Exhibits for the show will check in according to the individual department rules and fair schedule. Stall assignments will be posted the Friday before fair starts.

Unloading livestock and supplies allowed on the south side of the barns until 5 pm, Wednesday. After that no vehicles are allowed on the south side of barns - for safety reasons.

After 5:00 pm on Sunday, animals (except rabbits and poultry) may be loaded only from the north side of the barns. Enter from Gate E and exit through Gate D.

4. Bedding.

4-H/FFA members need to provide wood-type-bedding products only in bag, bale, or bulk. Bulk wagons/ trailers must be kept east of the Horse Arena in the Livestock Trailer parking area throughout the Fair.

Manure piles are for manure and bedding ONLY. Other trash must be placed in dumpsters.

Beef, Pen of 3, dairy cow, rabbit and poultry exhibitors will pay a non-refundable bedding fee and bedding will be provided.

5. Attire While Showing.

Each exhibitor should wear a clean, white T-shirt or 4-H or FFA shirt, clean, long pants or jeans, no hats or caps, with exhibitor number pinned to back of shirt when showing the livestock, unless otherwise specified in Division Rules (see Horse, Dairy and Rabbit). Hard-soled shoes are recommended. Shorts are acceptable for dog, cat, rabbit, poultry and small pet exhibitors.

6. Grooming/Fitting

It is intended that the 4-H'er take responsibility for caring for and grooming his/her own animals. If assistance is needed, it should be aimed at helping the 4-H'er learn new skills and be done by a family member, 4-H leader, and/or another Boone County 4-H'er – no professional groomers or trainers. Family member is defined as parent (mom, dad, step parent or legal guardian), brother, sister or step sibling, grandparent.

Any animal fitted in an unethical manner will be disqualified. The following rule corresponds

with the Iowa State Fair regulations.

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 internally or externally in a liquid or solid state.

Transparent grooming materials only may be used.

No unnatural means of providing an animal feed, water, or other fluids (i.e., stomach pump, drenching, IV) will be allowed.

7. **Substitute Showmen.** Use of substitute showmen is not allowed except in extreme cases due to injury, illness, for reasons of safety in the show ring, or other approved reasons. Approval for substitute showmen (or help with grooming) must be secured from the 4-H Youth Committee or Superintendent prior to the show. (Exhibitors having more than one animal in a class need not secure approval for assistance from another Boone County 4-H or FFA exhibitor.)
8. **Showmanship.** All exhibitors are encouraged to participate in showmanship in their species. Showmanship will be based on knowledge of exhibitor about his/her project and on ability to show their animal before the judge. Each exhibitor will show his/her own animal. **See divisions for more information. Exhibitors should exhibit an animal in a class to enter showmanship. Elite Showmanship** Classes will include current year winners, past senior showmanship winners and past Elite winners who are still in 4H/FFA & exhibitors at fair.
9. **Safety.** All fans must have safety guards and safe cords and wiring. No fans in the alleys.
10. **Classifications. Seniors:** just completed 9th – 12th grades; **Intermediates:** just completed 7th – 8th grades; **Juniors:** just completed 4th – 6th grades.

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Livestock Auction

The 4-H Auction Committee recommends that superintendents receive a packer bid prior to the auction. Beef will make every effort to receive a packer bid that day. The committee also recommends accepting the highest packer bid, and if a successful buyer wants to resell the animal, it must be resold to the designated packer for the previously accepted bid.

1. 4-H/FFA Exhibitors who exhibit market beef, market lambs, and swine may, at the exhibitors' options, sell their animals in the auction Monday at 9:00 am. **ALL animals will be listed for sale unless the species superintendent is notified otherwise by 3:00 pm Saturday.**
2. Sale order shall be **swine, beef and sheep.**
3. Sheep, beef and swine sale weights are the incoming Fair weights. ALL swine must go to slaughter.
4. The exhibitors may lead their animals through the show ring to allow businesses to bid a flat premium on the project being displayed. Further sales by private treaty only.
5. Exhibitors must stay with their livestock until after the final sale of the species in which she/he is involved.
6. Buyers must check out with the species superintendent. The superintendent **MUST** sign the load-out ticket prior to release if the animal is not sold to the packer.
7. Terms of the sale are cash. All livestock should be settled for before removal from the sale premises. All sale animals should be removed from the grounds by 2:30 pm on sale day unless

special arrangements are made with the species superintendent.

8. The Fair Board, Superintendents, 4-H Youth Committee, Boone County Extension, and Extension staff assume no responsibility for lost animals, for animals lost in transit, or any transaction arising from the sale of your livestock.
9. The Boone County Fair Supporters' program will continue to raise funds to sponsor auction purchases and premiums.

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Herdsmanship

The Herdsmanship Division is designed to help young people practice good citizenship principles with the animals and public. This results in humane treatment of animals, care of their welfare, and the development of an ethic of responsible (non-abusive) interaction between youth and animals. Herdsmanship has an additional benefit of providing neat, attractive exhibits for public viewing.

- I. If proper care of the animal (s) is not maintained, the superintendent (with committee decision) has the right to dismiss the animal. Premium money will be forfeited, and participation in future fairs will be questioned. (Example: Not enough water on hot days.)

- II. Club and chapter livestock exhibits will be scored daily. Divisions include Beef; Pen of 3; Dairy; Swine; Sheep; Horse; Goats; Rabbit; Poultry; and Exotic Animals. They will be graded as follows:

A. Cleanliness of alleys, stalls, and pens 50%

1. Bedding – adequate, clean, dry, in place.
2. Animals securely tied or penned.
3. Feed boxes and water containers clean and neatly arranged; may be in pens, if secured.
4. Manure hauled out, sorted by trash and manure, and deposited in proper place.
5. Alleys kept clean. (Brooms not allowed on dirt alleys – use rake or pitchfork.)

10 points will be deducted from daily total if parents and/or leaders are performing herdsmanhip duties. (Parents and/or leaders may assist members with duties they consider unsafe, however members must be attempting to help.)

B. Appearance of animals 25%

1. Animals as clean as facilities will permit.
2. Animals clean with grooming apparent.
3. **If animals are not present in stall, score will be reduced accordingly.**

C. Arrangement of exhibit 15%

1. Exhibits line up in attractive manner.
2. Boxes and other miscellaneous equipment arranged attractively and out of the way.
3. Hay and bedding neat and orderly. Broken bales need to be retied.

D. Club Identification 10%

1. The name and location of each club is well marked and easily identified. Points are not gained for elaborate club decorations.
2. Stall cards readable, clean, complete, and neatly arranged.

- III. Specific herdsmanhip rules for each species are in the appropriate species area in this book.

- IV. Exhibits will be spot-checked daily starting Thursday morning but will not be judged during their show time. **Times of judging are from 9:30 am to 8:00 pm.** At the end of the livestock auction, each exhibitor is responsible for cleaning the area where his/her livestock has been stalled. The bedding in the Beef Barn needs to be pulled two feet away from the wall toward the middle before exhibitors leave. The judges will do a final check on Monday afternoon. Premium money may be withheld if stalls are not cleaned.

- V. A *Club of the Day* will be selected daily on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday and will be awarded \$20 from a donor. A club must have members exhibiting at least three different species to be eligible for "Club of the Day." A different club will be selected for each day.

- VI. The highest scoring club for each *species* for the entire Fair will be **awarded \$15.00**. They will be recognized on a plaque kept in the Extension Office. **Second place for each species will be awarded \$10.**
- **A club must score a minimum average of 70% to win a herdsmanship award.**

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