



Dear 4-H and FFA Beef Pen of 3 Exhibitors,

We are excited you plan to participate in the 2023 Boone County Fair as a beef pen of 3 exhibitor! Please review the following information to ensure you are properly prepared for the event.

Schedule



Arrival– Beef Pen of 3 animals must arrive to the fairgrounds on **Wednesday, July 19th between 6 and 8 am.**

- Please remember to bring the following with you:
 - Fans (*optional*)– an electrical outlet will be provided for each pen if you wish to hang your own fan.
 - Your own feed bunks
 - A completed Beef Pen of 3 stall card that is to be hung on the outside of your pen. (found at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/boone/fairinfo>)
- When arriving to the fairgrounds, livestock exhibitors are encouraged to *enter Gate E and exit Gate D.*
- Upon your arrival to the fairgrounds, a veterinarian will inspect your animal(s). Please review the health requirements on *page 9* of the Boone County Fair Book.
- **Check-In**
 - Animals will be weighed individually in the Pen of 3 barn after being checked by the vet.
 - At check in time, participants must notify an Extension Staff member or Beef Committee member whether their animal(s) will be harvested.
- **Exhibitor's Meeting** – A brief meeting will be held in the beef barn at **7:15 pm** on **Wednesday, July 19th**. All exhibitors and parents are strongly encouraged to attend.
- **Interviews** – Exhibitors will be interviewed by the judge individually the morning of the show (July 21st) from 10-Noon. Exhibitors can sign up for their 10-minute interview slot at check-in on July 19th. Arrangements will be made for those individuals showing in the lead calf show.
- **Beef Pen of 3 Show** – The 2023 Pen of 3 Show will begin around **2 pm** in the Pen of 3 Barn on **Friday, July 21st**. At the start of the show, exhibitors will be asked to introduce themselves and their project (this may include their name, town, club, years in project, something they learned, favorite part of the project, any significant data and how it was achieved). The judge will then share their comments and awards will be presented.
- **Load-Out** – Pens of 3 who will be sold to Tyson at the end of Fair will be loaded out on **Sunday, July 23rd at 7:00 pm**. The Beef Committee will arrange transportation to the Tyson plant in Dakota City. ***Please, DO NOT call Tyson's for any reason. Doing so would lead to Boone County being kicked out of the Carcass Evaluation Program. If you have questions about the Carcass Contest, contact the Boone County Extension office.***
- **Clean-Up** – Exhibitors will be required to clean up their own pens at the conclusion of fair which may include removing feed bunks, stall cards, etc. *Exhibitors who do not clean up their stalls after fair will lose their premium money, their auction bonus and will not be allowed to show at the Boone County Fair next year.*

Judging at Fair

- Pen of 3 exhibitors and their animals will be evaluated in the following categories:
 - **Pen of 3 – Live**
 - Animals will be judged in their pens at the Boone County Fair. Placings will be based on the judge’s live evaluation of carcass merit and value of the animals.
 - Each pen will receive a ribbon rating – purple, blue, red or white. A Champion and Reserve Champion Live Pen will be named.
 - **Pen of 3 – Interview**
 - Exhibitors will be evaluated individually by the judge through a one-on-one interview process. Family members exhibiting the same pen of 3 will be interviewed separately.
 - Each exhibitor will receive a ribbon rating – purple, blue, red or white. One “Outstanding Interview” and one Reserve will be named.
 - **Champion Pen of 3 – Rate of Gain**
 - One Champion Rate of Gain Trophy and one Reserve Rosette will be awarded.

Overall Champion

- The Overall and Reserve Overall Pens of 3 will be determined utilizing carcass data.
 - To be eligible for the overall award, animals must be exhibited at the county fair **and** be processed at Tyson Meats in Dakota City (more information on this above). **REMEMBER** let an Extension Staff or Beef Committee member know if you plan to have your animal(s) harvested.
 - The Leonard A. Good Trust has generously agreed to pay for carcass data collection.
 - Key Cooperative *Livestock Feed Division* has generously provided a **\$250** cash prize to the Overall Beef Pen of 3 Champion and **\$100** to the Overall Beef Pen of 3 Reserve Champion.
- The Overall and Reserve Overall Champions will be announced at a post fair **Carcass Evaluation Meeting on Wednesday August 9th, at 6:00pm** at the Boone County Extension Office. Participants will be taking a closer look at the carcass data received on their animals and receiving payment for their project.

“Extra” Calves

If you weighed in additional animals in December, but opted not to bring them to the County Fair, you have several options for them:

1. You may show them as lead calves at the Boone County Fair if they are controllable by halter. Please let the Extension Office know if you plan to do this as soon as possible.
2. If you have not yet sold them, you can put them on the truck and sell them to Tyson. Carcass information will be obtained on these animals but will not be used to determine the overall champion. Only the information from the animals that are exhibited at the fair will be used to determine the overall winner. **If you would like to utilize this marketing option, please notify the Extension Office at the fairgrounds during the fair weigh-in on the morning of July 19th.**

Animal Care and Management

- The Boone County Fair veterinarian must be made aware of all previously prescribed medications that are to be administered during the fair. This notification should be made during check-in.
 - All disclosed medication will be administered according to the prescription either by the veterinarian, by the exhibitor, or by an exhibitor’s family member.
 - Any exhibitor not revealing previously prescribed medication/s and using such medications without permission will be disqualified and forfeit premiums.
- All medications given to sick or injured animals while at the fair must be approved and administered by the fair veterinarian.

- If any animal requires medical treatment while at the Boone County Fair, the fair veterinarian will be contacted.
- Families will be responsible for the cost of medications given while at the fair, and for any costs with extensive surgical repair of wounds, or fees accrued for referral of animals to specialty hospitals.



The *Animal Care and Management Disclosure* form (found at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/boone/fairinfo>) must include any and all medications that have been given to your animal over the course of your ownership. *Please turn in this form during the check-in process.*

Records Contest

In order to qualify for the **records contest**, (a ranking of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) a completed Boone County pen-of-three 4-H market animal worksheet must be turned in to your 4-H leader **by September 1st**, and to the Extension Office **by September 15th**. A blank record keeping worksheet is available at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/boone/page/4-h-record-keeping>.

Please let me or a superintendent know if you have any questions or concerns. I can be contacted via phone at 515.432.3882 or via email at jsoder@iastate.edu. We look forward to seeing you at the Boone County Fair!

Thanks,

Jess Soderstrum

Boone County Extension and Outreach | County Director