

Broiler Project Rules

Buchanan County Fair 2023

IMPORTANT DATES

Broiler Entries Due: April 1st

Broiler Chick Pick-Up: Tuesday, May 16th at the Extension Office

JUNE 15TH – Fair Entry Deadline

The Broiler Project is an opportunity for a 4-H or FFA member to gain valuable experience in raising broiler chicks to full weight through partnerships with a local business or individual sponsor. The sponsor buys the chicks and the member raises the chicks and presents the best three dressed birds per 25 birds sponsored.

RULES

1. General Livestock Rules and Regulations and 4-H General Rules and Regulations apply in this department.
2. Livestock Auction: Exhibitors interested in selling any bird entered in the Broiler Project at the auction **must notify the superintendent at check-in**. A limit of one bird per member. All auction animals must be an exhibit at the current fair.

Before Fair

1. The exhibitor may choose to raise 25-50 broilers. Families also have the option to share 50 or more broilers. Exhibitor must complete the Broiler Entry Form that is available in the monthly family newsletter and must be returned to the Extension office by April 1st.
2. The Extension office will line up sponsors for all participants. Local sponsors pay for only the chicks; the member is responsible for anything necessary to raise the chicks and processing.
3. A Broiler Packet of information and records will be provided.
4. Members must pick-up their chicks at the Extension Office on May 19th.
5. The exhibitor is required to communicate with the sponsor about the birds throughout the project.
 - a. Ways to communicate with your sponsor:
 - i. Picture of you and broilers on day of pick up with a letter
 - ii. Updates throughout project
 - iii. Delivering birds with a smile
 - iv. Sending a thank you

Fair Show Day

1. Participants will exhibit only three of their best live broilers. Another 4-H/FFA member may help.
2. Wear your 4-H or FFA t-shirt and exhibitor number when showing.
3. The birds will not be housed on the fairgrounds. This is very stressful for the birds. Exhibitors use their own cages.
4. All birds will be weighed before the show in designated area according to schedule.
5. Each broiler must weigh 6 pounds or less at the county fair weigh-in to participate in the Broiler Project Show. Any birds that weigh over 6 pounds at the weigh-in will not be allowed to show in the broiler show but could be moved to another class. (Bring four broilers to be weighed just in case.)
6. Broilers will be judged on the following criteria:
 - a. 10 Points Cleanliness
 - b. 45 points Meatiness of breast, thigh and drumstick
 - c. 25 points Conformation/body structure (as close as possible to the ideal rectangular shape)
 - d. 20 points General health and freedom from defects
7. Birds must be deserving of a blue ribbon to be eligible to receive a trophy.

After Fair

1. The member is responsible for processing the birds. It can be done professionally or by the member but must be discussed with the sponsor and delivered the week after fair.
2. **If you are not able to process one week after fair, deadline to deliver birds to the sponsor is August 9th, 2023. If this is not done, the exhibitor must reimburse the sponsor the amount the sponsor paid for the birds.**
3. Exhibitor will present their sponsor with their 3 best dressed broilers per 25 birds sponsored. Example: A family of 3 raises 75 broilers, they will present their sponsor with 9 dressed broilers.

Department Classes

25000: Clover Kid Broiler Project (grades K-3rd) - see Clover Kid Rules

25001: Junior Broiler Project (grades 4th-6th)

25002: Intermediate Broiler Project (grades 7th-8th)

25003: Senior Broiler Project (grades 9th-12th)