



2023 Buchanan County 4-H & FFA General Livestock Rule Book & Fair Information



EXTENSION STAFF & COMMITTEES

Kara Vance, **County Program Director**
Megan Rawlins, **Temporary County Youth Coordinator**
Lori Dietzenbach, **K-12 Youth Outreach, Program Assistant**
DeAnn Lentz, **Office Assistant**
Brynn Friedrich, **Regional Director – Region 10**
Angie Dougherty, **Youth Program Specialist**
Tessa Halverson, **Youth Fair Assistant Intern**
Anna Richards, **Summer Youth Educator Intern**

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Megan Rawlins
Paul Short
Cindy Waters
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Youth County Council

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Abigayle Johnson
Carter Homan
Elizabeth Kremer

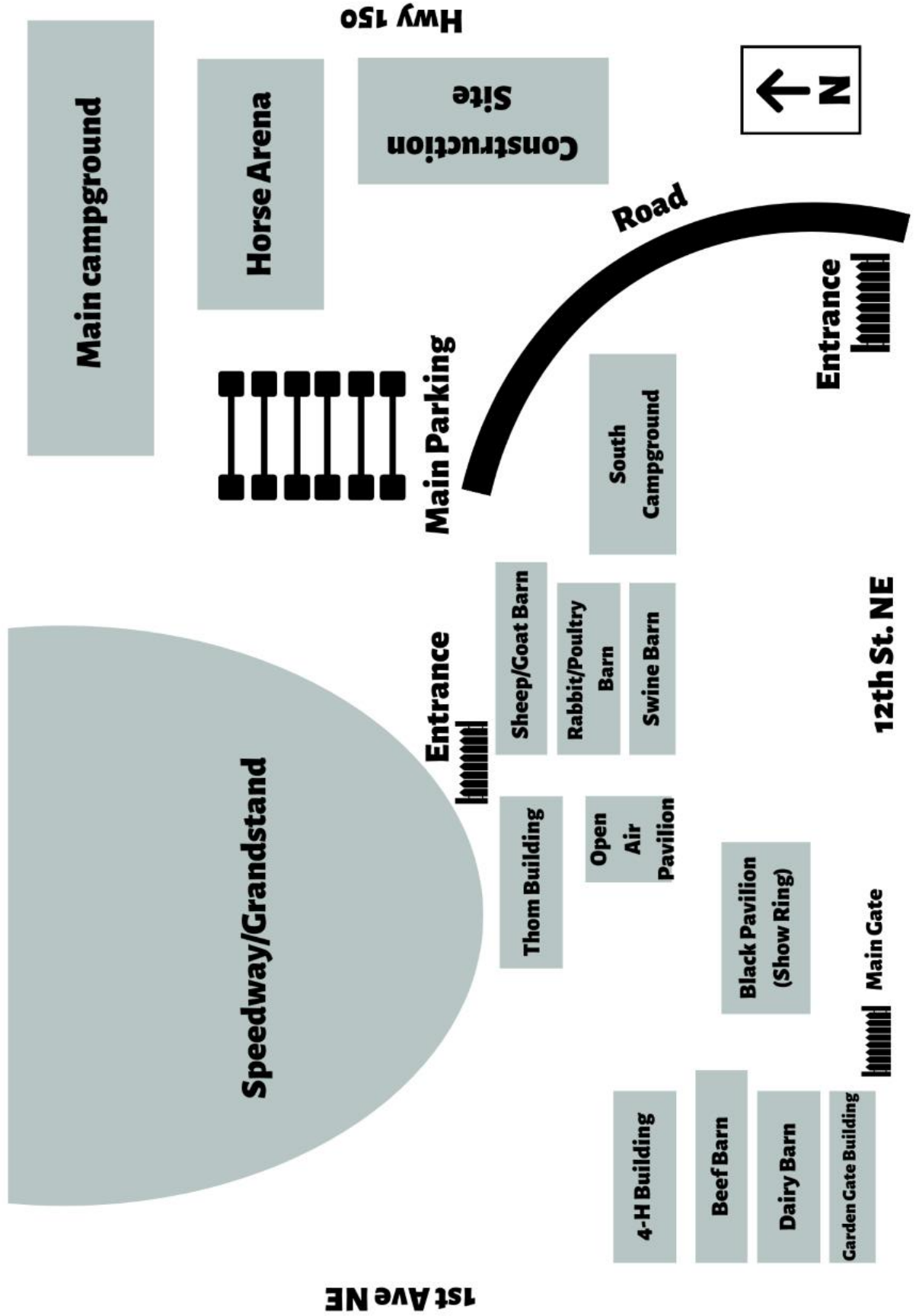


IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach
Buchanan County

2600 Swan Lake Blvd., Suite A
Independence, IA 50644
Phone: (319) 334-7161
Email: xbuchanan@iastate.edu



Buchanan County Fairgrounds Independence, IA



4-H and FFA General Livestock Rules

1. Buchanan County Fair exhibitions are open to qualified 4-H and FFA members.

Qualifications:

- a. Members must be enrolled on 4hOnline <https://v2.4honline.com> by May 15 in a Buchanan County 4-H Club or FFA Chapter.
 - b. FFA members are able to show livestock until age 21 or three years after high school.
 - c. 4-H'ers who have completed the following grades (or that equivalent) of the completed school year (2021-2022) are eligible in these divisions:
 - Seniors:** 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades
 - Intermediates:** 7th and 8th grades
 - Juniors:** 4th, 5th and 6th grades
 - Clover Kids:** K-3rd grade. May participate in non-competitive non-premium classes: building exhibits, garden judging, dogs, cats, pets, poultry, rabbits, bucket bottle.
2. Must be YQCA certified if showing market and breeding beef, swine, sheep, dairy (both dairy cattle and dairy goat), meat goat, rabbit and poultry. Grades 4th-12th and those FFA members showing until age 21 or three years after high school.
 3. Once an FFA member has graduated from high school, they are in their last year of showmanship.
 4. 4-H'ers who have completed 5th through 12th grade (or that equivalent) of the completed school year (2022-2023), are eligible for State Fair. Each exhibit must be the work of the member during the current year. The exhibit is to be an outgrowth of work done as a planned part of a 4-H or FFA project. Exhibits can be prepared by an individual 4-H'er, as a team of 4-H'ers or may be the result of a group effort. All 4-H'ers, individual or group, must meet the age requirements to be eligible for State Fair exhibiting. For example, if a 4-H group wishes to enter a notebook describing their club citizenship effort, the documentation should recognize the contributions of all members, but be prepared by those who meet the age restrictions. Exhibits might be, but not limited to, an actual product, poster, display box, report, notebook, model, DVD, CD, etc.
 5. School projects are eligible exhibits. If a 4-H'er has set a goal that can be accomplished by both a classroom assignment and an outgrowth of a 4-H project goal, that's OK. The intent is that a pre-determined goal has been set. Each exhibitor should be able to answer these 4 questions: 1) What was your goal? 2) How did you go about working toward your goal? 3) What were the most important things you learned as you worked toward your goal? 4) What are your ideas of what you would like to do in this project area next year?
 6. All Clover Kids and 4-H members **must identify all animals on 4hOnline by May 15, 11:59 pm no exceptions.** FFA members do not have access to identifying online. Members will be directed to an online FFA livestock registration form to fill out an identification, provided by the Extension office. The FFA registration must be completed by May 15th at 11:59pm. **There will be no deadline extension. This is not the final step.**
 7. After completing the May 15th **livestock identification on 4hOnline**, or the Online FFA Livestock link registration, the next deadline is using the FairEntry database <https://buchanan.fairentry.com> to complete the **animal entry**. This program integrates with 4hOnline and the FFA registration, only the animals identified on 4hOnline and the FFA registration will transfer over to FairEntry. This needs to be completed before or on **June 15th**. All bedding, scanning, pen and entry fees are due to the Extension office at this time (for **all** species).
 8. **All leasing and mentorship paperwork for all species needs to be turned in by March 1ST.**
 9. When an issue or problem arises while on the fairgrounds, it should be taken to the species superintendent. If needed, the superintendent will take this to the **County Youth Coordinator; who in turn may involve the Youth Advisory Committee and Fair Board Livestock Committee or Extension Council.**
 10. **All livestock must be on the fairgrounds by Wednesday, July 5th. Cat/Pet, Dog, and Horse are excluded. Animals should be ready to be weighed or checked in at their designated times on the schedule. If you miss weigh in or check in, the species superintendent has the authority to not allow you to exhibit.**
 11. **NO** exhibits are allowed to be loaded before that department's release time **unless making prior arrangements with the County Youth Coordinator.** All **building and livestock exhibits** may be removed at the designated time listed on the current fair schedule. Early removal of 4-H/FFA exhibits without permission could result in the loss of all 4-H/FFA premiums and one-year ineligibility to exhibit in any 4-H/FFA project at the Buchanan County Fair.
 12. No exhibits may be shown in more than one class, except in the case of livestock.

13. Awards will be made on the basis of blue, red and white groupings according to individual merit. There is no extra premium money awarded to purple placings.
14. Premium money will be prorated to all exhibits worthy of awards. The total amount will be determined by the Fair Board. All premiums are calculated using a computer program.
15. The Fair Board reserves the right to withhold prize money from any exhibitor for misconduct or disobeying the rules.
16. In any situation relative to 4-H or FFA exhibits not covered in the rules or in case of conflict or misunderstanding, final authority rests with the Extension County Youth Coordinator and Extension Executive Director.
17. The Buchanan County Fair Management will use diligence to ensure the safety of animals and articles entered for exhibition after their arrival and placement, but under no circumstances will they be responsible for any loss, injury, or damage.
18. Exhibitors interested in selling their livestock at the auction must notify the 4-H fair office at weigh in, or check in. All entries are due by **Wednesday, July 5th at 5:00 pm**. One animal per eligible species per exhibitor may be offered for sale. All auction animals **must be an exhibit at the current Buchanan County Fair**. Dairy exhibitors are able to sell dairy products.
19. Errors and any clarification in rules will be addressed by the Youth Advisory Committee at their next scheduled meeting or by electronic email communication.
20. Any violation of rules will result in action taken by the assigned committee for that department. General rule violations will result in action taken by the Buchanan County Youth Coordinator.
21. Any discourteous 4-H/FFA member can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge, livestock superintendent, committee, or Extension staff.
22. When the number of exhibits/entries in a class is fewer than three for two consecutive years, that class can be reviewed by the Youth Advisory Committee with a decision to be made to either discontinue the class or combine it with another class within the department unless evidence is found that indicates a need to continue it for an additional year.
23. Exhibitors will care for their livestock and always follow all rules while the animal is on the Fairgrounds. Lack of proper care/treatment will result in:
 - 1st offense – Exhibitor will receive a warning and be educated on the proper care of the livestock;*
 - 2nd offense – Exhibitor will relinquish all premiums; and receive a warning in a form of a certified letter*
 - 3rd offense – Exhibitor will relinquish all premiums, awards and be ineligible to show for a period of one year. The exhibitor will also be asked to remove their animal from the grounds immediately.*
24. Stall cards in barns may not be moved without the approval of the barn superintendent. Penalty for moving is expulsion from showing only in the barn where stall cards were moved.
25. 4-H/FFA Exhibitors are allowed to have third-party advertisement/promotional/marketing in their livestock stall(s). Exhibitors are allowed one sign for all marketing per stall. The single sign is limited to 8 1/2 inches by 5 1/2 inches in size only. Anything bigger than the required dimensions will be asked to be taken down by county staff, volunteers, and/or council.
26. Animals should not be left tied up on fences for a long period of time. Wash racks are a good example.
27. Herdsmanship: 4-H Clubs and FFA Chapters will receive a ribbon placing twice a day, except on show day. Judges will select a champion and reserve placing for each species each time herdsmanship is judged. Results will be posted by the Extension Office daily. Overall, Champion and Reserve will be selected after the fair based on how many purples they received.
28. You may not use the show ring to exercise your animals unless all 4-H/FFA shows are complete for the day. Please clean up after your animals if you use the ring, so it is ready for the next livestock show.
29. Extra pens will be allowed to exhibitors if space allows, NO refunds will be issued.
30. Wash rack usage will follow the show order of the day. Please be courteous to all species.

The Extension office will not be held responsible or liable for any forms not received or any forms received late. This also includes identifying on 4hOnline and completing animal entries on FairEntry. All families are responsible for making deadlines.

Iowa Youth Code of Ethics

Youth are expected to be sincere, honest and act in sportsmanlike ways at all times. Youth represent the entire program and their behavior reflects on their parents, leaders, club and the entire youth program. All adults involved with the youth program, leaders as well as parents, are expected to set positive examples and serve as positive role models by what they say and do. Any youth who breaks the code of ethics or allows another person (adult or peer) to talk them into violating the code of ethics agrees to forfeit all prizes, awards and premiums. The youth may also be prohibited from exhibiting at this and future exhibitions including the Iowa State Fair and other county, state or regional exhibitions.

Youth agree to follow these guidelines:

1. I will do my own work, appropriate for my age and physical and mental development. This includes research and writing of exhibit explanations, preparing exhibits (such as sewing, cooking, refinishing, etc), care and grooming of animals, etc. Adult assistance should help guide and support me, not do it for me.
2. All exhibits will be a true representation of my work. Any attempt to take credit for other's work, alter the conformation of animals, or alter their performance is prohibited. Copyright violation or allowing others to complete your exhibit is considered misrepresentation and is prohibited.
3. I will treat all people and animals with respect. I will provide appropriate care for animals.
4. I will present exhibits that are safe for consumption. All food exhibits will be safe to exhibit and for judges to evaluate. Other exhibits will be safe for judges to evaluate and for exhibition.
5. All food animals that may be harvested immediately following the show shall be safe for consumers, and shall have met all withdrawal times for all medications, and be free of violative drug residue.
6. If any animal requires medical treatment while at the fair or exhibition, only the Official Fair Veterinarian may administer the treatment. All medications that are administered shall be done according to the label instructions of the medication used.
7. My animal's appearance or performance shall not be altered by any means, including medications, external applications and surgical procedures. Any animal that is found to have changed its appearance or its performance shall be disqualified from the show, and have penalties assessed against the exhibitor, parent and/or guardian by the management of the fair or exhibition.
8. I will follow all ownership and possession rules and, if requested, will provide the necessary documentation.
9. I will follow all livestock health requirements for this fair or exhibition, according to the state health requirements as printed in the Premium Book of the fair or exhibition. I will provide animal health certificates from a licensed veterinarian upon request from the management of the fair or exhibition.
10. By my entering an animal in this fair or exhibition, I am giving consent to the management of the fair or exhibition to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. If the laboratory report on the analysis of any sample indicates a presence of forbidden drugs, this shall be evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample tested by the laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the exhibitor, parent and/or guardian to prove otherwise.

11. I am responsible for my exhibit, and I will not allow others to violate this Code on my behalf. By my entering an exhibit in this fair or exhibition I will accept any disciplinary action taken by the management of this fair or exhibition for any violation of this Code of Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or exhibition without recourse against the fair or exhibition.

12. I want my exhibit to be an example of how to accept what life has to offer, both good and not so good, and how to live with and learn from the outcome.

13. I will not be involved in any illegal activities while participating in 4-H and FFA events, including but not limited to alcohol, tobacco or drug use. I agree to conduct myself in an honest, ethical, and upstanding manner and I understand that disciplinary actions will result if these rules are violated. I understand that I am expected to represent the program in a positive manner. I have read, understand and agree to follow this Code of Ethics, and any other rules of competition of the fair or exhibition as printed in its Premium Book.

Grievance (Complaint) Policy

Any participant in the county fair (exhibitors, parents, volunteers, etc.) shall have 24 hours to file a claim concerning any protests, challenges of disciplinary action, or complaints concerning any rules/decisions. No claims will be considered based on the quality of the judges. All claims must be written on the official Grievance Form which will be made available at the 4-H Fair Office. All claims must be accompanied by a non-refundable \$25 cash deposit which must be submitted to a 4-H staff member in the 4-H Fair Office. Once a claim is filed it will be reviewed by the County Youth Coordinator and the Extension Executive Director as speedily as possible. Their decision in the matter will be final.

If a participant, parent, volunteer, etc. has a complaint they shall follow the procedures in the aforementioned paragraph. In the event that a participant's behavior becomes disrespectful (yelling, swearing, throwing items, etc.) the participant will be asked to leave the fairgrounds for a minimum of one hour to calm down. If the participant does not leave willingly, a member of the fair board will be called to the incident. The fair board member has the right to escort the participant from the grounds or call the police/sheriff's department for assistance. Depending on the severity of the behavior, the participant may be prohibited from all activities at the fair and/or banned from the fairgrounds. In the event that the participant needs to be banned from the fairgrounds, a meeting between the County Youth Coordinator, Extension Executive Director, a Fair Board member, and an Extension Council member will be conducted to determine the future eligibility of the participant to be involved in the 4-H program and the length of time the participant will be banned from the fairgrounds. In extreme cases, the State 4-H office will be contacted for assistance.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Livestock and Small Animal Rules & Health Regulations

1. All **General Rules** will apply to this and all departments. Please read carefully!
2. All animals must be **identified on 4hOnline by May 15, 11:59 pm**, <https://v2.4honline.com/> this is the first step. After the 4hOnline Animal Identification is the Animal Entry deadline, June 15th. This can be completed by accessing FairEntry <https://buchanan.fairentry.com>. Registration for **FairEntry opens June 1st**. All entry fees are due to the Extension office by 4:30 pm either by mail or dropping it off before or on **June 15th**. Entry fees may be postmarked by that date and still be accepted.
3. Animals identified as part of a 4-H project cannot also be identified or exhibited as an FFA project. Youth, however, may identify separate animals in the same division.
 - a. Example #1: 4-H'er could ID market lambs A, B & C in 4-H and market lambs D, E & F in FFA
 - b. Example #2: 4-H'er could ID horses A & B in 4-H and horses C & D in FFA.
4. **Substitute Showman**: All individual exhibits must be shown in the ring by the owner with the following exceptions.
 - a. When the exhibitor has more than one animal in a class, the exhibitor is to show one of them, and the additional animal must be shown by another eligible Buchanan County 4-H or FFA member. Only 4-H/FFA members who have completed 4th-12th grade (or that equivalent) of the completed school year (2022-2023) are eligible to perform as substitute showmen. This also includes those FFA members who can show until age 21 or three years after high school.
 - b. In case of sickness, an exhibitor may substitute another 4-H or FFA member to show the animal. The substitute must be approved by the department superintendent or Extension staff.
5. All livestock exhibitors are to dress in plain blue jeans with either a 4-H or FFA T-shirt or a white blouse with a 4-H or FFA logo. The exceptions are dairy cattle and dairy goats who can wear white slacks, which is acceptable and even encouraged. Clothing must be free of commercial advertising. **No open-toed shoes** will be allowed in the show ring. Horse exhibitors, please see horse rules for appropriate clothing attire.
6. **Ineligibility of Animals**:
 - a. Animals changing ownership after being started in a project are ineligible to be exhibited as 4-H/FFA animals for that year.
 - b. Animals which have been exhibited within the current year at another 4-H or FFA show in another county may not be exhibited at the Buchanan County Fair.
7. Livestock will be judged on the basis of merit according to the requirements of the class in which entered.
8. **All livestock classes may be called to the show ring over the public address system. Please be attentive to the instructions and listen for your classes to be announced.**
9. Exhibitors will be required to keep bedding, feed equipment, etc., in the space set aside for this purpose. The public alleyways must be kept open at all times and free from litter, feed, equipment, etc. All livestock must use wood chips or shavings.
10. All trash is to be thrown in trash can and not placed in manure bunker.
11. Each species committee must have the total area clean with all waste, etc. removed the night of Monday following release of animals.
12. Any artificial means of removing or remedying physical defects or conformation of exhibition animals such as lifting or filling under the skin will be considered fraud and deception. All animals with evidence of such treatment will be barred from the Buchanan County Fair.
13. Exhibitors will be required to keep stalls open 9:00 am - 9:00 pm during the fair, and must place their name, club, etc. in plain view in their respective stalls or pens on a card furnished by the Extension office or member made stall signs.
14. Stall or pen assignments will be made by the superintendent in charge of the department. Stall fees will be charged and **must** be paid before showing. Fees are subject to change at the discretion of the Extension office and will be reflected on the current *animal entry* found on FairEntry. There are **no refunds** for tie space, tack, pens, cages or bedding.
15. **Assigned stall cards in barns may not be moved without the approval of the barn superintendent. Penalty for moving can be expulsion from showing only in the barn where stall cards were moved.**
16. **Grooming/Fitting of animals should be done by the 4-H/FFA member and his/her immediate family/guardian, or if a signed agreement from the Extension office is completed, another 4-H/FFA member or a designated mentor with mentor**

agreement paperwork filed with the extension office by March 1st 2023, may assist.

17. Beef, swine, bucket bottle, sheep, and meat and dairy goat ear tags will be \$5.00 each. Swine DNA tags are \$10.00 each.
18. All livestock exhibitors must pick up an exhibitor number prior to showing their exhibits. Numbers will be available at the 4-H office in the Thom Building.
19. 4-H/FFA members must show their own animal for both the species shown in showmanship and master showmanship contests or they will be disqualified from the showmanship contest and lose their awards.
20. When there are animals entered not deserving a premium, ribbon placings will be at the judges' discretion.
21. No person will be allowed in the show ring except the exhibitors, committee members and other appointed personnel. This is a liability rule and will be enforced. NO ALCOHOL will be allowed in the show ring.
22. All animals showing for prizes must be exhibited in the ring, any special circumstances need to be approved by the CYC.
23. Tack pens will be assigned by species superintendent as space allows.
24. Evidence of warts, ringworm, foot rot, pink eye, draining abscesses or any other contagious or infections condition will eliminate the animal from the show.
25. No individual Certificate of Veterinary Inspection will be required on animals or poultry exhibited at the county fair but must be inspected when unloaded or shortly thereafter by an accredited veterinarian. **The decision of the official show veterinarian and species superintendent will be final.**
 - a. Each show has an official veterinarian. Each livestock entry will be inspected by the show veterinarian during the first evening of the fair.
 - b. The only exception to this rule is if there are any state show regulations or hand book that overrides the county fair book rules.
26. Quarantined animals from quarantined herds cannot be exhibited.
27. All lost ear tags should be **immediately** reported to the Extension office
28. **The act of drenching/filling of livestock (forcefully administering any substance orally) is strictly prohibited unless instructed by a licensed veterinarian for the well-being and health of the animal. Any animal that needs to be drenched on the day of the show, as deemed by a fair veterinarian, will not be able to compete in the show. Water additives are allowed (to enhance flavor or encourage intake of water) if they are recognized as safe for the animal to consume and that the animal consumes it on its own free will. See species specific rules for further guidelines on pastes, and other products.**

Buchanan County Fair Deadline Policy

Part of the goal of 4-H and youth development is to foster a strong sense of responsibility in our youth. Late entries reduce the efficiency of the 4-H/Youth Program administration and may adversely affect the credibility of the Buchanan County Fair.

Livestock Identification on 4hOnline deadline is May 15th, 11:59 pm, NO exceptions. Note: this is not the last step before fair. Members must complete animal entries on FairEntry. Help sheets can be found on the Extension website. Animal FairEntry deadline is June 15th on FairEntry. Fees must be paid directly to the Extension office before or on June 15th, 4:30 pm or postmarked for June 15th. FFA members will use a separate online link or paper form to identify all livestock by May 15th. Livestock State Fair Entries are due on Fair Entry on July 1st.

- All 4-H families must have completed the first step of **Livestock Identification** on 4hOnline. Second step is logging into FairEntry and use the same username and password from 4hOnline to complete a fair entry. **If** a 4-H member is **also** an FFA member, they may to use a **different** email account to keep entries separate and organized. Make sure to put FFA **after** the last name for FFA entries.
- FFA members may have to create their own FairEntry username and password.
- Late entries can be accepted up to and on the fifth business day after **June 15th**.
- **Static Projects Fair Entry** - All entries will receive an official Fair Entry tag (provided by the Extension office) and will attach it to the exhibit. Families log-in on FairEntry to pre-select the classes they would like to participate in. Youth will pick up their entry cards at the check-in table and then will be directed to their first judging waiting area. **Entry deadline for static projects is June 15th and 11:59 pm.**